



North Carolina
Geographic Information Coordinating Council
Local Government Committee

MINUTES
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
May 28, 2014, 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 28, 2014.

PRESENT

LGC members:

Jessica Brannock, High Country COG, representing ARCED
Kathryn Clifton, Chair, City of Salisbury, representing NCLM
Travis Penland, City of Hendersonville, representing Carolina URISA
Alice Wilson, City of New Bern, representing APA-NC and SMAC Rep
Julie Stamper, Pasquotank County, representing NCACC

Others:

Stephen Dew, Guilford County, WGO Rep
David Nash, City of Fayetteville, Working Group for Census Geospatial Data Rep
Pam Carver, WGSP Rep
Chris Contreras, City of Jacksonville (sitting in for Joseph Sloop)
Jeff Brown, CGIA, Staff to the LGC

ABSENT MEMBERS

Lucy Cardwell, Currituck County, representing NCPMA
Joseph Sloop, representing NCLGISA

WELCOME

Kathryn (Kat) Clifton, Chair, called the meeting to order. Kat welcomed the members and guests.

REPORTS

Working Group for Seamless Parcels (WGSP)

Pam Carver and Jeff Brown reported that the grant project is complete. The project delivered the following:

- Master schema (the core standard fields that are the targets for nonstandard fields)
- Geospatial database (store the original and transformed parcel datasets)
- Online Parcel Transformer (application for uploading a parcel shapefile and transforming to the standard fields in polygon and point formats)
- Standardized data (including valid metadata)
 - 25 counties
 - Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
- EPA Exchange Network REST services (<http://ncservices.cloudapp.net/wfs/>)
- NC OneMap REST services / downloadable data (<http://data.nconemap.com>)
- NCID authentication (for data producers sharing parcel data and system/data managers)
- User guides (Quick Guide for data producers, NCID for registration, WFS query guide for application developers)

Just a few of the applications discussed include planning a network of trails, analyzing parcels and flood hazard areas, and land development.

Efforts will continue by CGIA and project partners and voluntary participants. The Working Group for Seamless Parcels and others will look for ways to complete the statewide content and maintain the online tools. A 2-page description will include contact information for participating.

The data produced from the Parcel Transformer will be the last dataset uploaded by a parcel data manager. Integrated parcels served by NC OneMap will be archived using the NC OneMap Retention Schedule. The project did not include a use case for analyzing trends in parcel size (subdivided parcels related to land development) from retained versions of parcel data. Jeff will forward brief descriptions of the project to the committee.

Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC)

Alice Wilson reported that the SMAC met on April 16. Ryan Draughn, SMAC Chair, changed the meeting format to focus on priority statewide datasets to frame reports and discussions, with less emphasis on member meetings and activities. (The priority datasets are orthoimagery, street centerlines, address points, elevation, parcels, geodetic control, streams, and governmental units. Local governments are authoritative sources for many of the source datasets needed for statewide compilations.) Hope Morgan gave a report on the new LiDAR project. Data have been acquired for 40 counties and quality control is in progress. There are new ground control standards in progress by ASPRS. Hope explained that LiDAR points will be classified to identify structures and vegetation and other classes. Regarding the Stream Mapping Advisory Committee, Cam McNutt is the new chair. Alice sat in on a meeting of the group. There was discussion about a single

hydrography dataset. Tom Morgan reported on the revised state standard for Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS, formerly Global Positioning Systems or GPS). SMAC approved and recommended adoption by the GICC. SMAC also discussed the role of the State Board of Elections in compiling address data. Reports from working groups and subcommittees included a report from the NC Board on Geographic Names. There are three stream names under review. The Board will look into names that have been listed as under review for many years to see if there are any issues to resolve. Steve Averett reported that the Metadata Ad Hoc Committee continues to meet and looks forward to submitting a proposed new state metadata standard to SMAC before July. The State Government GIS User Committee reported that it is looking at the potential of ArcGIS Online (Esri's cloud based solution) for publishing services and maps. NC DOT uses ArcGIS Online for its GO NC site. SMAC meets next on July 16.

For a related issue, Julie added that State Board of Elections monthly solicits verification of addresses by the county boards of elections. In cases where the county board lacks GIS capability the situation can be awkward and time consuming. Some combination of training and more communication with county GIS coordinators is needed. Julie suggested that more involvement of the State Board of Elections with SMAC would be a good step.

Working Group for Orthophotography Planning (WGOP)

Stephen Dew reported that the 2013 Eastern Piedmont is closing out and data and imagery services are available on NC OneMap. For 2014 imagery, acquisition was completed on April 9 in the Northern Piedmont and Mountains region. Quality control involving local government contacts will begin on August 4 using the online "VOICE" system (webinars will take place this summer). The NC 911 Board approved funding for the 2015 project in the Southern Piedmont and Mountains region where 40 percent of the area is mountainous compared to 28 percent in the 2014 phase. Contact Mr. Darrin Smith, project manager, for more information (darrin.smith@nc.gov) about participating in the quality control process.

There was discussion of color infrared imagery and its value for classifying LiDAR data into land cover classes. Additional funding would be needed for processing and storing color infrared imagery products.

On the topic of oblique imagery, state agencies do not have a compelling business case for a statewide collection of oblique imagery or a state standard. However, considering local government purchases and uses of oblique imagery, the Working Group intends to develop a procurement guide for oblique imagery. The industry has a committee working to develop industry standards, and Stephen has volunteered to join that group to add a consumer perspective.

On a question of achieving efficiencies in imagery acquisition, Jeff's understanding is that orthoimagery and oblique imagery are handled by separate vendors with different digital sensors and different flight pattern requirements. Local governments will have opportunities to contact flight vendors assigned to acquisition areas to explore local

procurement of additional products. Of the current five orthoimagery contractors, only Sanborn offers oblique products, but local governments may inquire.

Working Group for Standards

In the absence of James, Jeff reported that the Council approved the revised GNSS standard. The standard pertains to state agencies, but there is a lot of useful technical information in the document. It will be posted online on the GICC documents webpage.

Stream Mapping Advisory Committee

Cam McNutt is chairing the committee with assistance from Joe Sewash of CGIA. Alice suggested confirming that Wright Lowery is still available and willing to represent LGC on the committee or finding a new representative now that the committee is becoming active again. The April meeting was focused on setting up processes and goals. Cam clarified that the data and standards emerging from the committee are focused on authoritative sources. In addition, the committee requested information about how local governments are using stream data and where they obtain the data. The committee wants to meet user requirements. A survey of local governments may be the best way to gather information. Kat will consult with Alice and Wright on a set of questions.

Working Group for Census Geospatial Data

David Nash reported that the Census Bureau sent a delegation to the GICC meeting where working group members were invited to attend for an overview of Census programs. GICC meetings page includes a calendar where presentation slides are included. Local government GIS members in attendance were Joseph Sloop, Anne Payne, Matt Helms, Stan Duncan, and Kat. David has participated in Census efforts since 1990. He added that people who participate in the Boundary and Annexation Survey program may be most suitable for local Census 2020 efforts. The next Working Group meeting is to be scheduled.

Technical Advisory Committee

Jeff reported that Council Chair Stan Duncan appointed Dan Madding as the new chair of the TAC. Dan is in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. He has some ideas including looking at GIS cloud solutions, reviewing compression ratios for orthoimagery county mosaics, and technical architecture. Dan will welcome ideas and issues from LGC. Kat, as an ArcGIS Online user, posed a question: what is an easy way to make sure that data residing in the cloud is backed up locally without the local person having to touch the data. Local copies are valuable.

Professional Development Opportunities

The 2015 NC GIS Conference will take place on February 26-27 (with workshops on the 25th). The fees are set as \$150 for early registration, \$175 for late registration, \$35 for students, and \$1,200 for a vendor booth.

July 1 is the deadline for applications to NCBELS for grandfathered status as a Professional Licensed Surveyor with a mapping science specialty. Lucy Cardwell got her

license. Stephen, Chris, and Kat plan to apply. There was a good discussion about application requirements.

NC Arc User Group is holding a set of symposiums this year and had a webinar in March. Kat recommended checking the group's website.

APPOINTMENTS

Ricky Hall has taken a job in the private sector and will not be able to serve on the Working Group for Orthophotography Planning. LGC has an opportunity to appoint a replacement with a strong preference for someone from either the Southern Piedmont and Mountains region (2015) or the coastal region (2016) to serve as a technical advisor on the Working Group.

LGC ACTION LIST

- Jeff provided maps for the group about the 2014 flight contractors and the LIDAR plan.
- One-page guide on Geographic Names and the NC Board of Geographic Names (Jeff Brown—pending).
- GPS (GNSS) Standard is adopted.
- Topics and content needed from LGC for another issue of a newsletter. Kat got approval from Stan Duncan to post the first issue online.
- Action: LGC members will share stories and ideas about benefits of statewide data with Kat for future issues.
- Action: find another local government representative for the Working Group for Orthophotography Planning, 2015 region preferred.
- Action: Jeff will distribute a brief description of the parcels project.

OTHER BUSINESS

Concerning meeting dates, Julie has a conflict (a local meeting on the 3rd Wednesday every month) meaning she misses a local meeting once a quarter. Kat and Jeff will solicit the group for future meeting dates.

NEXT MEETING

The next LGC meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2014 at 2:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45.