GIS Advisory Council

January 25, 2024

Council Members

Alfredo Herrera	Gary Archambault	Emily Wilson
Scott Gaul	Erik Snowden	Peter Sampiere
Stuart DeLand	Mark Hoover	Meghan McGaffin
Gregory Ciparelli	Thad Dymkowski	
Dan Czaja	John Guszkowski	

Official Start time: 1:03pm

Agenda

Introductions

Attendance:

Alfredo Herrera	Erik Snowden	Meghan McGaffin
Scott Gaul	Mark Hoover	
Stuart DeLand	Thad Dymkowski	
Gregory Ciparelli	Emily Wilson	
Dan Czaja	Peter Sampiere	

Introductory remarks

- Change in GISO org chart; David Lukens left at the end of November. In the process of hiring now.

GISO Priority Topics

- 2023 Annual Report (Alfredo Herrera)
    - Produce report for State Planning and Development Committee every year
    - Document has grown this year, positive feedback so far
    - Highlights:
        - CT Housing Data Hub dashboard: Working with Office of Governor to make dashboard; give high level view of housing in the State; coming out next week
        - ConnCRIS: Public view out since late last year; just released the restricted viewer; you can go to the ConnCRIS website to request access to the dataset
- Broadband Mapping (Alfredo H)
    - Completed fourth collection of ISP availability and adoption data; created Dec 1 map as required by statues; seeing a lot of increase in internet connections
    - Supporting DEEP broadband planning and grant process
    - Publication of adoption and availability maps
    - Support CET Digital Equity Plan

    - Presenting to COGs and CCSM on various topics related to broadband
    - Created CAI list for use with CT BEAD Proposal; comprehensive & specific
    - David Lukens left at the end of November, about to begin interviews for new GIS Coordinator position
- GIS Office Stakeholder Outreach Plan (Carl Zimmerman)
    - Outreach and coordination; proposed tasks for the year; if anyone has feedback about how we are covering stakeholders, please let us know
    - Going out and visiting the COGs
        - Travel to each of the COGs
        - Do a listening session to listen about data needs, parcel needs, ongoing issues
    - Imagery
        - Recently started series of ongoing meeting talking to COGs in each of the 4 imagery/lidar/GIS data regions
        - We will ask for support & feedback on the data
    - Parcel and address data
        - May 1 COGs need to collect parcel/CAMA data; start of new cycle
    - Conferences & Professional Organizations
        - Trying to reach broad range of people in GIS
        - Conferences: GIS Network, NEARC, NSGIC, ESRI UC
    - Other events and methods of outreach
        - Legislative events; more time with legislators
        - Office hours/technical assistance
        - Meetings with agencies (10 or so over the last months)
        - Newsletter after each GAC meeting
        - Technical blogs on topics we are working on
        - Professional/commercial events to meet the community
- GIS Strategic Plan
    - (Near) final draft went out for external review & internal review
    - Good input, ESRI Profession Services review
    - Published by Feb 15
- Addressing Discussion Follow Up (Alfredo H)
    - Following up with the discussion that we had in the last GAC meeting when Dan Czaja presented about he e911 address data
    - We've been in conversation with Dan, DOT, and internally to figure out what the process is going to look like going forward
    - Sarah Hurley: Master Address Layer: we are working on developing a comprehensive CT address layer
        - It will be generate from several different sources: e911, state agency data, ISPs, utilities
        - Then there will be an address verification process where we go through and make sure addresses are valid and active
        - Over time the GIS Office will establish a regular updating process in conjunction with DOT so that when new addresses are formed we will be able to keep the master layer up to date

        - Then this will help create the CT Geocoder using the most complete version of the master address layer, points backed by the parcel data, and also centerline data from DOT
        - Down the line we'll be able to better improve it by integrating building footprints from out imagery data
        - The centerline data currently has licensing agreements associated with it, so in order to use it in a public facing geocoder, we would have to derive something else; plan is to use the foundational geometry from the DOT and fill it in with private roads that have not yet been tracked
    - Greg Ciparelli: DOT maintaining centerline data for publicly accepted roads, does not have private roads. We have a software dependency that we're waiting on internally at DOT that would give access to a lot of the data. End product will benefit everyone, including DOT internally.
    - Thad Dymkowski: from municipalities perspective, this data is very useful.
    - Meg McGaffin: Open Street Maps CT data have centerlines; could be a good third source to check data
    - Mark Hoover: Important to work with municipalities CAD vendors; great statewide dataset, but to update it is a cumbersome process. At some point would be good to get them involved, maybe include them in this process so we can make it easier for them to update data
    - GISO will be doing some outreach. We will be doing a survey for the towns to try to learn what the process is like on an individual town basis. We need to know how they do addressing on a local level. So when we are building the tool, we are doing so in the right way.
        - We want to be able to build a sustainable process for updates
    - Greg C: Good job coordinating with other agencies going similar efforts. Building on the processes so we can make it easier for the towns.
    - GISO trying to be inclusive of everyone in this process because it is such a foundational dataset.
    - Publishing geocoder with help from DOT
- Aerial Imagery Update (Carl Z)
    - QAQC process
    - 4 delivery blocks;
        - Imagery in block 1 have been reviewed and went back to vendor; at the end of the month should see the GIS/Lidar/Elevation data to review
        - Block 2 should be coming in soon, hopefully within a week or so
    - Delivery and review status
        - Block 1 imagery delivered & review completed. GIS/Lidar/DEM coming as end of Jan
        - Block 2 has a delay because of warping on buildings; should be fixed shortly; Lidar/GIS/DEM are still on time
    - GISO Comments
        - Overall excellent

        - Minor issues – hot spots and streaks in lakes, east/west slopes very dark, some limited snow patches in only a few areas; some very long shadows
        - This was pretty simple to review, the Lidar and building review will be more complex
        - QA/QC from subcontractor – minor issues, mostly some warping around bridges
    - QAQC Review
        - QAQC web review tool
        - Imagery workgroup will review overall deliverables and specs, DEM, 1ft contours, buildings, and Lidar classification; COGs will help with imagery and 3D buildings
            - First meeting this past week; 3 COGs will participate in block 1 & 2
            - COGs will help with imagery and 3D buildings; we will meet with them individually to talk about what they can help us with; look at downtowns and specific data that are most familiar to them
        - It's a lot of data – tens of terabytes.
    - Questions
        - Mark H: How will you be delivering the data? One block at a time?
            - Alfredo: Unsure exactly the process. Imagery hosted with CT ECO
            - Emily: Will be hosted when the final deliverable is out; If you need large areas, contact Emily and don't use the download tool so that you don't have to unzip everything
        - Review of data delivery timeline
    - Updates will be posted on CT GISO website and CT ECO blog
- Parcel Collection and Aggregation
    - Now that GISO exists, we wanted to produce a single dataset with all of the towns; create a seamless parcel dataset; we've succeeded but there have been a few challenges along the way
    - We will begin the 2024 collection soon
    - Leah Hodges: Collection and aggregation process
        - Started by evaluating what towns submitted data; if town unableto submit data, we used 2022 data
        - Assessed what data was available
            - Assess if the CAMA data adhered to the CAMA standard; almost 140 towns adhered to the schema (~120 towns in 2022)
        - Standardize the data schema that we received; field map the data; consolidate the datasets to strip them to only necessary fields
        - 1.2 million parcels total
        - CAMA - standardize headers, consolidate the fields (to 37)
        - New field created to create a unique linking field
    - Published data on Geodata Portal; New parcel landing page
        - Dataset is very large, so cannot download the full state right how
        - Can download dataset by COG
    - Parcel Viewer link available on the landing parcel
        - Using the 2023 Parcel data

        - Search address, zoom to COG/town, zoom within the map, select from different basemaps
        - When you click on a parcel, you can view the details
        - Links to download the data (from the CT Geodata Portal)
        - Survey to give feedback
    - 2024 Collection Process beginning
        - Minor changes to CAMA schema
        - Ask towns to submit a required standard schema for the GIS data (link field, locator, editor tracking information)
        - Special attention on link field completeness and viability
        - We will be doing outreach to COGs and Municipalities
            - We will talk to the CAMA & GIS vendors
            - Want to make sure everyone is on the same page
    - Question: fail to download the whole state
        - Need to download by COG for right now, technical difficulties for downloading the whole state

Public comment

- Meghan M: Datum shift; any plan on the State level in adopting the new coordinate system?
    - Alfredo: not sure yet
    - Greg C: Expecting proposal legislation from DOT coming out next session to address it.

Adjourn at 2:05pm

Closing remarks

Adjourn: 2:30pm