

July 16, 2015

**To:** NITC Commissioners

**From:** Nathan Watermeier, State GIS Coordinator  
Bill Wehling, Chair, GIS Council  
Tim Cielocha, Vice-Chair, GIS Council

**Subject:** GIS Council Report

### **Membership Update**

There are two GIS Council seats up for renewal in September 2015. Notification went out in May to the League of Nebraska Municipalities (LNM) and the Nebraska Association of Resource Districts (NARD) to seek either renewals or replacements for their seats.

The LNM has reappointed Lash Chaffin (Lincoln) and the NARD has appointed Jeff Sprock (Scottsbluff). Jeff Sprock represents the North Platte Natural Resources District in Scottsbluff, Nebraska and replaces John Miyoshi. Both candidates have been forwarded to the Governor's office for final approval. By statute, these seats are nominated by LNM and NARD and are appointed by the Governor. The NITC does not provide further nomination for either NARD or LNOM.

### **NESDI Strategic Initiative Update**

#### Elevation

The Elevation Business Plan was approved by the GIS Council on March 26, 2015. The business plan is posted at the following location:

[http://nitc.ne.gov/gis\\_council/workgroups/elevation/documents/NITCGISCouncilElevationBusinessPlan2015.pdf](http://nitc.ne.gov/gis_council/workgroups/elevation/documents/NITCGISCouncilElevationBusinessPlan2015.pdf).

The plan outlines the business case for LiDAR statewide. The plan takes a comprehensive approach and details the organizational needs, technology and human resource requirements, required product deliverables, funding requirements, legislative support, implementation plans, and a marketing and outreach strategy.

Implementation has already begun to start building local and federal partners to begin acquiring LiDAR data for priority areas of Nebraska. The working group was successful in receiving a cost-share contract with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to begin acquiring LiDAR data in western Nebraska (Figure 1). This effort was a result of several partners working together. These partners involved several Natural Resource Districts (NRD), State agencies, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and USGS.

The proposed area covers almost a 4,500 square mile area in western Nebraska that abuts Colorado and Wyoming. The estimate for the project is \$1.3 million with USGS providing up to 50% match. The funds are currently being allocated towards the project to start the contract. A statement of work is being finalized on the technical details for the data acquisition requirements and timeline. The contract is administered by the USGS so they work with the photogrammetry industry to align vendors to acquire the data. We are expected to begin flight acquisition as soon as this fall. Due to other nationwide projects and weather it could also begin after March of 2016.

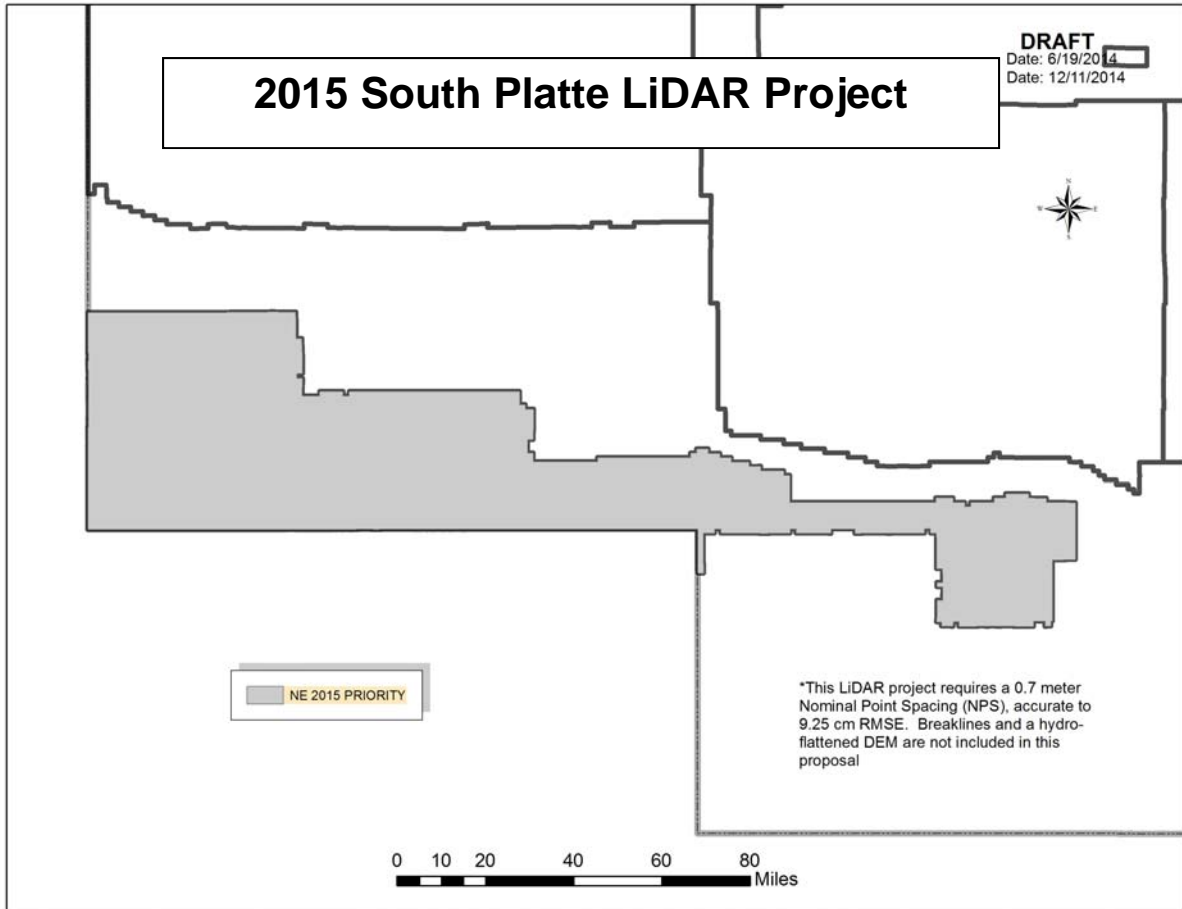


Figure 1. The 2015 South Platte LiDAR project area.

Land Records

A Nebraska Statewide Parcel Geodatabase Development and Implementation Plan was finalized in May with input from several county assessors. The plan outlines expectations of the State’s public records request and a timeline going forward to obtain core parcel data and GIS files. This is an ongoing plan to work with counties annually for two data updates per year. The plan involves four phases and implementation began in early June. We are currently in Phase 2. This effort has also leveraged a data sharing partnership effort by working together and identifying state level data that can also go back to counties to support their needs.

Street Centerline Address Database

Efforts have been underway to communicate the recent street centerline and address standards to those involved with public safety and emergency management. The standards were presented to the State E-911 Advisory Board to begin to address questions and begin developing partnerships to further build recommendations going forward as we develop plans to transition to NG-911. A Statewide Street Centerline and Address Data model with data definitions have been drafted. This will be used to further communicate to participants who use state funds for projects developing street centerline and address data for the state in order to begin standardizing efforts going forward.

Until seamless address data becomes available to the state, several state agencies have partnered towards a shared service for a statewide ELA contract with InfoGroup to acquire statewide address and

demographic data for the state. It is available to any state agency, city/local government, other state eligible political subdivision, college, or university (except University of Nebraska Medical Center). The OCIO has leveraged the data to be made available in several formats and map services.

### NebraskaMAP

The inventory process of evaluating geospatial data is still continuing. There are many geospatial data sets that are not meeting NITC Metadata standards. This is one of the requirements to be fulfilled before data can be made publicly available through the new clearinghouse. A geospatial data and content management policy has been drafted and will be shared with the GIS Council at their next meeting. This policy has also brought about a need to investigate a data and information retention policy specific for geospatial data with assistance of the Secretary of State's office. Meanwhile, the working group is developing plans to assist those with updating their metadata records. Several online tools, guides, and support information is currently being constructed to guide users through the metadata documentation process.

A data management and cataloging system designed specifically for geospatial data has been assembled and is currently being tested for security through the OCIO Open Systems team. The new platform will also be mobile ready to allow users several ways to download or link to data.