

October 23, 2014

To: NITC Commissioners

From: Nathan Watermeier, State GIS Coordinator
Josh Lear, Chair, GIS Council
Bill Wehling, Vice-Chair, GIS Council

Subject: GIS Council Report

Approval of Standards

Action: Approve modifications to existing NITC 3-201 Geospatial Metadata Standards

Technical Panel Recommendation: Approve
GIS Council Recommendation: Approve

Metadata standards have been developed specific to the needs of Nebraska stakeholders while maintaining compliance with the metadata standards from the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC). These standards were originally adopted on September 23, 2005 in have recently been updated to include changes in ISO data standards endorsed by the FGDC. No comments were received through the recent 30-day public review process initiated by the Technical Panel.

Action: Approve NITC 3-203 Elevation Acquisition Using LiDAR Standards

Technical Panel Recommendation: Approve
GIS Council Recommendation: Approve

These standards are new and are intended for entities participating in collaborative efforts to acquire airborne LiDAR elevations that may contribute to a comprehensive statewide elevation dataset in Nebraska. The standards are derived from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Geospatial Program's (NGP) LiDAR Base Specification Version 1.0. In addition, the standard emphasizes particular requirements and needs for Nebraska that are not available in USGS standards and where additional clarity is needed. No comments were received through the recent 30-day public review process initiated by the Technical Panel.

Action: Approve NITC 3-204 Imagery Standards

Technical Panel Recommendation: Approve
GIS Council Recommendation: Approve

These standards are new and are designed for future statewide aerial imagery acquisition efforts that meet verified minimum horizontal accuracy requirements for a spatial resolution of 12 inch, preferably flown during the "leaf-off" period for trees. The requirements from federal standards (i.e., National Emergency Number Association) are also driving the need for greater spatial accuracy of imagery in order to meet needs to develop and create street centerline and address points. No comments were received through the recent 30-day public review process initiated by the Technical Panel.

Street Centerline and Address Standards

Standards have been developed for Street Centerline (NITC 3-205) and Address (NITC 3-206). These standards were sent out for public review during the summer and received no comments. The GIS Council made additional changes to these standards and sent out again for another 30-day review. A couple of comments were received during that review period at the deadline date but it did not provide ample time to review before the Technical Panel meeting. These standards have been tabled until the Technical Panel meets again.

Membership

Action: Approve nomination of Eric Herbert of Sarpy County to fill Omaha Metro GIS Council seat.

The Omaha Metro seat expired in September 2014. The Omaha Metro seat is nominated by representatives of the Omaha Metro area then nominated to the NITC. A selection committee has been formed and nominations have been provided to the committee. The selection committee is putting the nomination forward for Eric Herbert, Sarpy County to fill the seat of Omaha Metro.

Strategic Initiative Update

Elevation – The Elevation Business Plan is in a draft version and is currently out for initial review. The working group also submitted a pre-proposal for LiDAR acquisition through the new United States Geological Survey (USGS) 3D Elevation Program. The proposal covers almost a 4,500 square mile area in western Nebraska that abuts Colorado and Wyoming. A dialogue has started with various partners in western Nebraska to support future LiDAR acquisition projects.

Land Records – Progress continues on the few counties willing to share data with the state for the statewide parcel database. This database has many uses and applications to support state business needs. There were several concerns raised by the GIS Council at their last meeting on the lack of response and misinterpretation of information about our public records request for this data back in June. The working group will be meeting in November to continue to identify next steps to follow-up on the public records request and educating the counties on the effort.

Street Centerline Address Database - The State has acquired a statewide site license for all consumer and business address and demographic data to fulfill current state government business needs. This will not only support general needs across all agencies but also assist the future development of addressing points to be used in combination with the street centerline database. A subset of this data for several counties was provided early on to us to support team efforts on the ground following the Pilger tornado.

NebraskaMAP - OCIO has hired a new temporary person to assist the inventory and assessment of the NESDI data layers. This person is also working to enhance components of NebraskaMAP. The working group is currently working on the business plan draft. An initial review of the draft will be made available in November to the GIS Council.