

National Geospatial Advisory Committee February 4-5, 2009 NGAC Meeting Summary

ACTIONS, DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS

Review and Adoption of October NGAC Minutes

DECISION: The NGAC adopted the minutes of the October 2008 NGAC meeting.

Transition/Economic Stimulus

RECOMMENDATION: The NGAC approved the following recommendations to the FGDC regarding Economic Recovery:

1. Implementation Recommendations

To ensure transparency and accountability NGAC strongly recommends that:

- FGDC agencies and OMB fully utilize geospatial technology to effectively implement and manage the enacted economic recovery legislation.
- The proposed Recovery Board should develop a geospatial strategy and requirements that apply across the different components of the economic recovery legislation, including:
 - Health IT
 - Broadband
 - Wildland Fire/Emergency Response
 - Alternative Energy
 - Global Climate Change
 - Transportation and Infrastructure
 - Conduct of the 2010 Census
 - Education, Training, and Workforce Development
- The Recovery Board should ensure that the Recovery.Gov website is geospatially enabled to manage and track economic recovery investments.
- OMB should issue clear, enforceable guidance to agencies working on stimulus-funded activities to ensure that geospatial investments are made in a strategic and coordinated manner, consistent with the standards-based development of the NSDI, as a required component of any geospatial data or application development. The existing Geospatial Line of Business provides the operational framework from which to execute this recommendation.
- Federal grants and contracts guidance language requiring reporting and documentation of geospatial data development should be completed and implemented.

2. Geospatial Data Recommendations

- As described in the NGAC Transition Recommendations, the NGAC supports investments in nationally important geospatial data, including the following priority areas:
 - Imagery
 - Parcel Data
 - Elevation

The National Map (TNM)

ACTION: The TNM Subcommittee will send a request to NGAC members asking for additional concerns, issues, and questions to be addressed regarding the TNM.

ACTION: The TNM Subcommittee will work with USGS to develop draft advice on commercial licensing of data.

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Governance/Circular A-16

RECOMMENDATION: The NGAC approved the following recommendation to the FGDC regarding Governance:

- Whereas Executive Order 12906 and OMB Circular A-16 designate geospatial data themes and assign federal agency stewards for those themes;
- Whereas most agencies have not been provided designated resources to meet stewardship responsibilities;
- Whereas some agencies have not produced plans to accomplish stewardship responsibilities;
- Whereas OMB has not been able to assemble consistent and accurate budgetary crosscuts for geospatial activities to implement stewardship responsibilities;
- Whereas agencies have not been held accountable for meeting stewardship responsibilities; and
- Whereas the coordination, duplication avoidance, and partnering requirements of Executive Order 12906 and OMB Circular A16 remain unsatisfied not only among Federal agencies, but also with non-Federal stakeholders:

Now Therefore; Be It Resolved:

- That the NGAC recommends that the FGDC encourages and supports the Administration in the use of geospatial data and technologies to transform government operations and provide accountability and savings across geospatial activities, by:
- Reaffirming Executive Order 12906 and revising it to increase accountability;
- Strengthening direct OMB enforcement of the reporting requirements in Circular A-16;
- Implementing performance measures
- Coordinating and working in partnership with Federal, State, Tribal, and local government agencies and the private sector, and building upon non-Federal data wherever practical; and
- Strongly considering the role of geospatial data and technology in transforming government operations while implementing the President's management agenda and formulating and executing the President's Budget.

NGAC Vision

DECISION: The NGAC approved the NGAC Strategic Vision as revised.

Parcel Data

ACTION: FGDC/Cadastral Subcommittee will provide information on Mortgage Crisis/Parcel Data Stakeholder outreach meetings to NGAC and report back at May NGAC meeting.

Partnerships

ACTION: NGAC members provide feedback to Partnership Subcommittee's Call for References by February 27.

ACTION: Partnerships Subcommittee will summarize results of Call for References, prepare draft project plan, and report back to NGAC.

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News and Notes

ACTION: NGAC members provide suggestions and feedback on ASPRS Industry Forecast project to Charlie Mondello by end of February.

Communications

ACTION: FGDC staff will schedule demonstration of MyUSGS wiki site for NGAC members. FGDC staff will reset NGAC member passwords.

ACTION: NGAC Chair and DFO will review draft op-ed article and determine next steps.

NGAC Action Plan

ACTION: NGAC retired Vision Subcommittee and Changing Landscape Subcommittee.

ACTION: NGAC established new subcommittee to review development of economic stimulus proposals, identify lessons learned, and develop longer-term strategy for more effective cross-sector coordination.

Next Meeting

The next NGAC meeting is scheduled for May 12-13, 2009 in Washington, DC. Potential agenda topics include the following:

Progress Reports

- Partnerships
- ASPRS Market Study
- Economic Stimulus – Lessons Learned

Updates

- Communications
- Parcel Data – Mortgage Stakeholder Outreach
- Governance
- Imagery for the Nation
- The National Map

Major Discussion Topics

- NGAC / Federal Priorities
- NGAC Strategic Visioning/Planning

Additional Topics

- Discussion of “Markets and Metrics”
- Presentations from key Federal agencies/programs (e.g., NSF, NASA, EPA, NOAA)
- Possible dialogue with new OMB E-Government Administrator