



**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Coordination Group Meeting
Tuesday, November 3, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 2:00p.m. EST**

Location: National Capitol
Planning Commission
401 9th Street NW
Washington D.C. 20576
Room: 5th Floor, Commission
Chambers, Suite 500

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:10	Welcome and Introductions	<i>Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC</i>
9:10 – 9:15	Previous Meeting Action Item Review	<i>Ken Shaffer, FGDC</i>
9:15 – 9:45	FGDC Business and Secretariat Report (Annual Report, Wetlands Standard, SmartBuy)	<i>Ken Shaffer, FGDC</i>
	<u>Topics of Interest</u>	
9:45 – 10:15	Geodetic Control Subcommittee Report	<i>Julianna Blackwell, DoC, NGS</i>
10:15 – 10:35	National Geospatial Forum	<i>Stephen Lowe, USDA</i>
10:35 – 10:50	Transportation Summit Outcome	<i>Lynda Liptrap, Census</i>
10:50 – 11:10	<i>The National Map Viewer</i>	<i>Rob Dollison, USGS</i>
11:10 – 11:25	Data.gov	<i>Rob Dollison, USGS</i>
11:25 – 12:25	Lunch	
12:25 – 1:15	Geo-Commons CAP Category 4 2009	<i>Andrew Turner, Fortius One; Doug Nebert, FGDC</i>
1:15 – 1:55	GeoLoB Work Group Plans Finalization and 2011 Planning	<i>Lew Sanford, FGDC</i>
1:55 – 2:00	Action Item Review Next Meeting Agenda	<i>Ken Shaffer, FGDC Ken Shaffer, FGDC</i>

2:00

Adjourn

<p>*Read-ahead Documents (provided by Wednesday) 10.28.09</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FGDC Business Report CG 20091102 vs.ppt 2. Data.gov_GOS Flowv2.ppt 3. Gos-Data.gov Briefing v.1 – Rob Dollison.ppt 4. Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee Update 110309.ppt 5. Geo Enablement CAP Grant Update – Andrew Turner – 110309.pdf 6. Geo LoB Monthly Status Report October 2009.ppt 7. GeoLoB At a glance oct 10.30.09.pdf 8. Transportation Summit – Lynda Liptrap.ppt 9. Transportation Outcomes – Lynda Liptrap.ppt 10. TNM-NGP Digital Services Brief for CWG Nov 2009.ppt 11. GeoLoB Lifecycle WG Update – Lew Sanford.ppt 12. National Geospatial Forum.pdf
<p>Other Relevant documents</p>	<p>GeoLoB Work Group Work plans are on the my.usgs.gov share site under the FGDC>Geospatial LoB directory</p>

* Read-ahead documents are located at the my.usgs.gov site for member access.

CG Meeting Planning

<p>Coordination Group Meetings Topics (in addition to the following standing items) - Welcome and Introductions; - Previous Meeting Action Item Review; - FGDC Business Update; - FGDC Secretariat Report; - Summary of Action Items / Next Meeting Agenda; - Adjourn</p>
<p>December 8, 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on: Metadata WG and Geologic SC. • <i>TNM</i> as an FGDC WG, <i>Vicki Lukas.</i> • Digital Map Beta, <i>Mike Cooley.</i> • Briefing on National Ocean Coastal Mapping Plan Workshop, <i>Tony LaVoi</i> (presenter TBD).
<p>January 12, 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on: Standards WG and Cadastral SC.
<p>February 9, 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on: Technology & Architecture WG and Marine and Coastal Spatial Data.
<p>March 9, 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on: Users/Historical Data WG and Spatial Water Data SC.
<p>April 13, 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on Vegetation and Wetlands SC.
<p>May 11, 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on: Cultural and Demographic Statistics WG.
<p>June 8, 2010</p>
<p>July 13, 2010</p>
<p>August 10, 2010</p>
<p>September 14, 2010</p>
<p>October 12, 2010</p>

November 9, 2010

December 14, 2010

Pending Topics (date topic was identified)

- Defining the NSDI (20090602-02).
- Define/recommend how programs, like *The National Map* and the National Atlas, are identified, included, tracked, and involved in the CG efforts. (20090602-05).
- One or two SC and WG to present status at each CG meeting (20090707-01).
- Harvesting issue with GOS and geodata.gov. Doug Nebert, FGDC. (20090707-02).
- Common Services Survey Results (20090901-01).
- Select a CG Co-Chair (200901-02).
- Issues to take to the ExCom meeting (20090901-03).



**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Coordination Group Meeting
ACTION ITEMS
Through November 3, 2009**

Pending	
Lead:	Vaishal Sheth, FGDC Action #: 2009-1103-01
Action:	FGDC Secretariat will promote National Geodetic Survey training opportunities on the FGDC website.
Contact:	Vaishal Sheth, FGDC, vsheth@fgdc.gov
Resolution/ Response:	
Pending	
Lead:	Arista Maher, FGDC Action #: 2009-1103-02
Action:	Andrew Turner will make the presentation slides on GeoCommons available to the Coordination Group. Arista will post slides on the share site.
Contact:	Arista Maher, FGDC, amaher@fgdc.gov
Resolution/ Response:	
Pending	
Lead:	Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA Action #: 2009-1103-03
Action:	After the Lifecycle Management Work Group meeting on November 5 th , the group will come to an agreement on process and Wendy will report on the results of the meeting to the Coordination Group and Executive Committee.
Contact:	Wendy Blake-Coleman, EPA, blake-coleman.wendy@epa.gov
Resolution/ Response:	
Pending	
Lead:	Lew Sanford, FGDC Action #: 2009-1103-04
Action:	Lew will send out a meeting notice for a brainstorming session on FY 2011 GeoLoB priorities.
Contact:	Lew Sanford, FGDC, lsanford@fgdc.gov
Resolution/ Response:	
Pending	
Lead:	Arista Maher, FGDC Action #: 2009-1103-05
Action:	FGDC Secretariat will reach out to subcommittee and work group leads to confirm their participation in their scheduled SC/WG reports.
Contact:	Arista Maher, FGDC, amaher@fgdc.gov

Resolution/ Response:		
Pending		
Lead:	Arista Maher, FGDC	Action #: 2009-1103-06
Action:	The FGDC Secretariat will work with Julianna Blackwell to establish the list of Geodetic Control Subcommittee members.	
Contact:	Arista Maher, FGDC, amaher@fgdc.gov	
Resolution/ Response:		

ID (yyyymmdd-#)	Decision/Description
	Decisions provide a position/foundation on which actions are taken.



Federal Geographic Data Committee Coordination Group Meeting MEETING MINUTES November 3, 2009

√	Coordination Group Attendees	Organization	√	Attendee	Organization
x	Brett Abrams	NARA	x	David Morehouse	DoE
x	Rani Balasubramanyam	DOJ	x	Bill Mullen	DoD
x	Wendy Blake-Coleman	EPA		Anne O'Connor	DoC
	Jeff Booth	DHS		Tai Phan	DoE
	Mark Bradford	DOT		Robert Pierce	DOI
	Colleen Cahill	LoC	x	Daniel Sandhaus	DOI
	Trisha Christian	SBA		Antoinette Sebastian	HUD
x	Jonathan Mann	GSA		Charles Smart	TVA
x	Sandra Downie	GSA		Jon Sperling	HUD
	Randy Fusaro	DoC		David Timmons	SSA
	Edward Hulger	DoL	x	Dat Tran	VA
	David LaBranche	DoD		Adrienne Walker	OMB
x	Tony LaVoi	DoC		Johnathan Mann	GSA
	Christina Lett	DOI	x	Bernadette ???	
x	Pheakdey Lim	VA	x	Shirley Hall	USDA
	John Merrill	DHS	x	Carol Giffin	USGS
x	Scott McAfee	FEMA	x	Jacquie Nolan	LoC
	Ray Milefsky	State	x	Jon Hasse	DHS
x	Deidre Bishop	Census	x	Stu Reiter	NRC
√	Other Attendees	Organization	√	Attendee	Organization
x	Ivan DeLoatch	FGDC	x	Lynda Liptrap	Census
x	Ken Shaffer	FGDC	x	Juliana Blackwell	NGS
x	Arista Maher	FGDC	x	Lew Sanford	FGDC
x	Stephen Lowe	USDA	x	Marisa Capriotti	USDA
x	Rob Dollison	USGS	x	Vaishal Sheth	FGDC
x	Bonnie Gallahan	FGDC	x	Milo Robinson	FGDC
x	Tom Harrington	Applied Geographics	x	Gita Urban-Mathieux	FGDC
x	Jeanette Archetto	GT	x	Bill Wilen	
x	Roxanne Lamb	FGDC	x	John Mahoney	FGDC
x	Renee Shields	NOAA	x	Charles Hickman	USGS
x	Sharon Shin	FGDC			
x	Bill Burgess	NSGIC			

1) CG Members in blue text 2) If yellow highlight attendee NOT confirmed for meeting 3) Check box for meeting attendance.

Welcome and Introductions – Ivan DeLoatch, FGDC

Agenda and read-aheads have been posted to the share site.

Pat Phillips has left the FGDC and is now with the NGP. Arista Maher will be taking her place.

Previous Meeting Action Item Review – Ken Shaffer, FGDC

FGDC Business and Secretariat Report – Ken Shaffer, FGDC [[Presentation](#)]

A-16 Buildings and Facilities – GSA is the A-16 Theme Lead for buildings and facilities. The Data Theme lead for A-16 Buildings and Facilities is the GSA Office for Real Property. George Deryckere or Carolyn Austin-Diggs are the GSA POCs.

Co-chair selection process for the Coordination Group-- Currently finishing step one, getting membership in place. We still need to define co-chair responsibilities.

The 2009 FGDC Annual Report – PDF versions will be posted later this week. The Annual Report theme was mortgage crisis and land parcel data. Thanks to all agencies who supplied information for the Report, and thanks to Milo Robinson for leading the effort on putting the Report together. Requests for Annual Report copies can be sent to Arista Maher. Hard copies should be in by November 17th.

Work Group/Subcommittee Updates Scheduling – This is located on page 2 of the agenda. WG/SC chairs are asked to look at that schedule and make sure there are no conflicts. They are asked to reschedule with Secretariat staff, if needed.

ACTION: FGDC Secretariat staff will follow-up with WG/SC chairs to confirm their participation in the scheduled meetings.

Geo-SmartBuy Roll-Out – The Secretariat has coordinated with OMB to help speed up the process of the official roll-out. Some vendor awards have already been made. There are still some questions being addressed which are delaying the final award. Lew Sanford met with GSA last week to understand which clauses still needed to be solidified.

Question: Is GSA willing to entertain releasing everyone else participating, aside from this vendor?

Answer: Agencies are already ordering from GSA schedule. We could make a partial award right now and publicize it.

Question: Do vendors have to justify non-BPA purchases to OMB?

Answer: There is a waiver process, but GSA says they are no longer requiring that.

Geospatial “At-A-Glance” Report – Common Services WG is currently without a lead. Lew has been working with them, but a lead would help greatly. CG members are encouraged to step up.

Secretariat Report – Arista Maher is the new CG contact.

2010 NSDI Cooperative Agreements Program – The announcement for the 2010 CAP was posted on Grants.gov on October 16th. Gita Urban-Mathieux is the contact for questions. A list of the funding categories was presented.

Executive Committee Meeting - Meeting was held in October. Stephen Lowe is here today and will present on the National Geospatial Forum. A meeting on the NSDI metrics feedback has been rescheduled to next Tuesday. The ExCom drafted a memo of support to Data.gov on the Concept of Operations (ConOps). FGDC supplied an ExCom reviewed, place-based policy initiative white paper that was sent to the Executive Office of the President.

NGAC – Subcommittee papers will be reviewed at the next meeting. Keith Clarke will be presenting on activities of the Mapping Sciences Committee. Representatives from Penn State University will be presenting on the Geospatial Revolution project. Please register to attend the meeting with Arista. The NGAC appointments process is coming along; a review panel met to discuss nominations and developed a set of recommendations. The office of the White House Liaison at Interior is currently reviewing the recommendations. Appointments should be certified by the end of the calendar year.

Geodetic Control Subcommittee Update – *Juliana Blackwell, DoC, NGS* [[Presentation](#)]

Overview and Evolution of Geodetic Control – This presentation will put forward a general overview of geodetic control.

Coordination Begins with Good Coordinates – Geodetic control should be the foundation of all geospatial products. Having information related to metadata is important to be able to integrate everything we do within government, nationally and internationally. We need this data to be able to form continuities in data. Geodetic control is the critical “basemap” layer for geospatial information.

The National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) – Floodplain mapping, monitoring levy heights, creation of lidar, the *National Map* all depend on NSRS. Part of NOAA’s mandate is to define, maintain, and serve the NSRS. The NSRS is a consistent coordinate system that defines latitude, longitude, height, gravity, etc. How we perform geospatial activities has changed dramatically over the past 20 years. Line of sight measurements were used to develop the NSRS.

NGS Positioning Products Worth Billions – NSRS is worth \$2.4 billion per year.

Everyone is a Geodesist – Everyone has the tools and information available to get positions, elevations, etc. to be able to meet their geospatial needs. We need to understand the accuracy of information; this is harder to derive now that information is so readily available.

How Accurate is the NSRS? – It depends on where you are, how old the data is that is being delivered through NSRS, and which reference frame is used. As we transition into an ITRF global navigation system realm, there will be changes within positions currently held and positions in the future. The point of references will change. Being able to keep information

about the Earth's changes up-to-date are also critical. Geodetic control information is critical to understanding what's happening in dynamic areas and validating heights of information.

Geodetic Control is Evolving – the NGS 10-Year Plan – The modernization of the horizontal datum and vertical datum, migrating the coastal mapping program toward the IOCM, evolving core capabilities and increasing agency visibility are all issues included in the NGS 10-Year Plan. We have a 200-year history within NGS.

Predicted Positional Changes for Datums in 2018 – There will be different latitudes and longitudes, as well as different orthometric heights for datums in 2018. The point of references will change so that we are prepared for changes.

Height Modernization - A way to get accurate heights using GPS, so that you can get height information wherever you are in the U.S.

The Future of Height Mod: GRAV-D – Canada has already used this model for their data. We would like to do this at the centimeter level. We need to be able to use data to create a new vertical datum. We are creating a model that gives us heights good to 2 cm anywhere. The sooner we can implement this plan, the better. Gravity for the nation can benefit programs like Imagery for the Nation, lidar, and elevation.

FGDC Provides CORS – CORS = Continuously Operating Reference Stations. 23% of CORS stations are .gov-owned stations. The Coast Guard owns the bulk of federally-owned CORS stations, followed by NOAA and FAA.

FGDC uses OPUS – OPUS = Online Positioning User Service. Users submit data to NGS, and they receive information about position via email within 1-2 centimeters accuracy. Over 1 million positions have been served to users; we expect that usage will continue to accelerate.

NGS Integrated Database – This slide shows the areas over the past 5 years where we have had “passive marks” (project-by-project data). Depending on where you are, you will have more or less accurate data.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Levee Inventory – Datasheets provided through OPUS will present pictures of the location, maps, and other data about the location (an example of this is provided on the right-hand side of this slide). USACE wanted to validate levee heights post-Katrina. A common datum (NAVD88) is used for all levees.

Integrated Ocean and Coastal Mapping – If we can share our requirements, we can do the work once and use it in a variety of ways. Regardless of how you use data, it would be better to combine resources before work is done so that we can reduce duplication.

FGDC Geodetic Control Work Groups – Subcommittee supports cadastral, topographic, hydrographic, bathymetric data. Work Groups: Vertical Reference Systems; Fixed-Reference Stations; Instruments; Methodology; and Spectrum. All of us would benefit from increased membership in the Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee.

Opportunities for Cooperation – Areas where we can cooperate include: GRAV-D (we can share aircraft, crew, expertise, funds, etc.); 2018 Datums (we need to prepare for coordination of height shifts); Bluebook; and Standards.

Summary of Accomplishments – FCGS quarterly meetings; outreach through state and regional forums, and review and release of Geoid09.

Summary of FY10 Actions Planned – We would like to hold a federal summit in early 2010 to talk about the impacts of new vertical datum. We also look forward to conducting state and regional forums and engage with Canada and Mexico on the vertical datum. We would like to create a technical document about the future of datums in the U.S. We want to compile a list of new “surveying technology.” Draft guidelines will be reviewed, such as real-time-networks. Furthermore, we would like to continue to build work group memberships and continue to revise charters as necessary. We would like to identify a new Secretariat as well.

Questions/Comments:

NGS provided a course that brought everyone up to speed on datums, which Bill Wilen participated in and highly recommends. NGS provides a lot of training courses—information is available on their website about future opportunities.

ACTION: FGDC Secretariat will promote NGS training opportunities on the FGDC website.

ACTION: FGDC Secretariat will work with Julianna to begin managing the SC membership list in the FGDC’s membership application.

“Wetlands Standard Item”/NSDI Champion of the Year – Bill Wilen [[Presentation](#)]

Ivan DeLoatch congratulated Bill Wilen for his hard work and leadership in the geospatial community. The Wetlands Mapping Standard, which was adopted in August 2009, came about largely through Bill’s hard work. Bill will be featured in this year’s FGDC Annual Report.

National Geospatial Forum – *Stephen Lowe, USDA*

A copy of the Forum Summary was sent out to the Coordination Group a couple of weeks ago. There has been a lot of positive reaction to this upcoming Forum, but there have also been a lot of questions, which will be clarified today.

Chronology of the event: In April 2009, there were discussions about new strategic plans. A Communications Plan became a key component of the new strategic plan. The plan was presented to Administration officials. On August 11th, a memorandum was issued by the Administration about the need for place-based policies. We used that theme in designing a virtual Forum for December 2009. Place-based policies will be the topic for the first of a series of four Forums.

USDA will be hosting the Forum through its digital studios. There are several different targeted audiences for each virtual Forum, including: Federal geospatial leadership (on December 9th);

vertical government (states, local, tribal); public communities and academia; and industry, non-profits and lobbying groups. We plan on building collaboration through the “crowd-sourcing” effect, and discussions post-event.

The Coordination Group was asked for input on what questions the Forums should address, as well as how we can connect with the geospatial community, and any other items they would like to discuss.

Discussion:

Q: Who will be participating in the Forum?

A: We have extended invitations to various Administration members and authors of the place-based policy memo.

Q: What is the format of the Forum?

A: There will be a panel of 4 people, several members of FGDC, and one potential policy person from the Administration. There will be an introduction, and a short presentation that introduces the topic of place-based policies, followed by a Q&A session. This will be a live, web-cast event, where participation occurs in real time. We also have the ability to push out the event on satellite feeds. We can create a direct feed for use in an auditorium or in other venues so that others can indirectly participate.

Q: Have you reached out to others outside of the geospatial community (economic recovery, health, etc.) for participation in the Forum?

A: We want to enable geospatial leaders to implement solutions; therefore this is not as theoretical and more about practical geospatial solutions and we are keeping it mostly limited to the geospatial community and Administration officials.

Q: What is the geospatial community aware of that will provide value in the conversation? How will we keep this initiative in the forefront?

A: We need to continue to sustain the discussion after the event. Policy innovation, new business models, performance measurement, and other issue areas will fit into the conversation during the event and these discussions will continue afterward.

Q: How does our community fit into place-based policy?

A: Geo-enabling our business has a great deal of value. We were initially focused on communicating that value. When the place-based memo came out in August, we decided to align our existing initiatives toward this new Administration policy so that we can use the resources we have available to us now to support this new policy.

Q: Is this an evolution of GeoLoB into place-based policies?

A: In August, we agreed on a Joint Business Case in 2011. Place-based policies are an extension of this. At the Executive Leadership Conference in Williamsburg, VA, place-based policies were a hot topic. In supporting Recovery.gov, our community has been very useful. Therefore our community has more credibility with the Administration and we need to continue to use this to promote geospatial initiatives.

Q: There is an opportunity to have a conversation about national geospatial data assets here. Will we use this opportunity to our advantage?

A: Yes, it is anticipated that this and other upcoming forums will emphasize geospatial data assets.

Q: DOI currently blocks access to Twitter and Facebook. How do we participate in the use of social media?

A: We are aware of this issue and are working through the proper policy channels to resolve this.

Transportation Summit Outcome – Lynda Liptrap, Census [[Presentation](#)]

The Transportation meeting was a joint effort between DOT, USGS, and the Census Bureau. We sent out a survey to invitees about their transportation data needs. The goal was to define the various transportation needs of agencies. The high-level requirements documents are referred to herein as the “straw man” document.

The group wants to go forward by reviving the FGDC Transportation Subcommittee. They want to prepare straw man transportation requirements documents. There has been a follow-up survey sent out to further refine data requirements. Any questions about this effort can be directed to Randy Fusaro.

Q: What are the next steps? What are the timelines around the straw man document? What can the CG do to help with the process?

A: The straw man document should be completed by the end of the calendar year. The follow-up survey was distributed last week to gather more information from participants about their data needs.

Q: Have the Transportation meeting minutes been sent out?

A: The minutes are at USGS for review currently; they should be coming out soon. The survey results are located on the CG share site.

The National Map Viewer – Rob Dollison, USGS [[Presentation](#)]

Rob Dollison presented a demonstration of The *National Map Viewer*.

Rob serves in the National Geospatial Programs Office, and is the Project Manager for Geospatial One Stop.

The 125th Year Celebration of the Topographic Map will be held in Reston on December 3rd. Invitations will follow shortly.

The New *National Map Viewer* – uses 100% *National Map* and National Atlas content. Currently, you have to go to many different viewers to get different data. Our goal is to make that data available in one place.

We have teamed with DHS, NGA, and DOJ to collaborate on this investment. The data we use is publicly accessible. The viewer is asynchronous; you can do more than one thing at a time.

The new base map is cache-style, and it provides a very quick response. It is topo-shaded and is similar to many digital maps most users are used to using (zoom-in, zoom-out functions, panning, etc.) Data layers are available to be overlaid onto the base map. There are also side sections on download services (GeoPDFs), inventory services, emergency operations services, and featured federal services that can be used on the map.

By subscribing to a search on OneStop, a user can get emails with current information about data topics like LiDAR, bathymetry, etc., that allows users to monitor current activities that organizations are performing related to data.

CAP Grants are underway for various aspects of the viewer, like widgets that can be used in conjunction with the viewer.

Discussion

Q: Have you done different mash-ups for different agencies or non-USGS services?

A: Yes, some have been done; we are starting small, but later hope to build out those services.

Q: How have you wrestled with issues on authoritative datasets?

A: We have begun to look at how to address those issues, but there haven't been concrete definitions on authoritative datasets.

Data.gov – Rob Dollison, USGS [[Presentation](#)]

Background on Data.gov – Ivan DeLoatch

OMB requested input from the geospatial community on ConOps from Data.gov. Agencies including EPA, USDA, DHS and Interior, developed comments and suggestions on ConOps and submitted this information to OMB last week. This can be an opportunity to reinvigorate Geodata.gov, since there is renewed interest in the valuable resources that this catalog offers. The large number of datasets within Data.gov have been made available via Geodata.gov. We now have a good opportunity to align ourselves with the Administration's priorities to provide access to geospatial data. Geo-enabling is an important area in this effort as well. One of the key points of Data.gov is the emphasis to access to high quality data. We have proposed to meet with the Senior Advisory Council for Data.gov to determine how best the geospatial community can support their efforts. Data.gov is focused on federal data only, while Geodata.gov also takes into account state and local data; we are working with them so that they can recognize the importance of using a wider range of stakeholder data.

Presentation on Data.gov – Rob Dollison

Data.gov searches a sub-collection of geospatial data within Geospatial One Stop. Data.gov enables public users to download federal government datasets.

Initially, EPA, Commerce, Interior, and NASA were contacted about their data. There was an attachment to the letter that included a GOS Dataset Certification form, instructions for selecting

datasets for GOS to Data.gov dataset transfer, COG collections of metadata entries sponsored by each agency, etc.

There were certain requirements for the data: public information, data quality, privacy, security, accessibility, and public participations. We were particularly concerned with the data quality requirements.

The GOS Workflow diagram in Rob's PowerPoint presentation outlines the steps that were taken on both the policy and technology sides of Data.gov.

There is a "flag" in Geodata.gov that can be turned on to publish data on Data.gov, but this is only a rudimentary method for doing this. The volume of datasets makes it difficult to individually flag data for publication in Data.gov. We are currently working on better ways to "flag" data for use in Data.gov.

Some of the policy and technology gaps include: an improved CIO approval process and synchronization with GOS; automation of "flagging" of datasets for inclusion in Data.gov; and data and metadata lifecycle issues that include authoritative datasets and authoritative sources. These are the major challenges that will need to be addressed in the future.

Geo-Commons 2009 CAP Category 4 – Andrew Turner, Fortius One [\[Presentation\]](#)

The title of the project is "Enabling Use of Government Tabular Data in a Geographic Context." [\[Presentation\]](#) GeoCommons is a public portal for geospatial information.

We have developed and deployed geocoding on GeoCommons. We are able to do U.S. street-level data (TIGER/Line data source, and later NAVTEQ and other data imports). It was built with open source tools and designed to be modular. It is very fast—able to do 240,000 geocodes per hour.

GeoCommons was deployed in the Afghanistan election monitoring. The "Beer for Data" program in a Taj Bar in Jalalabad where data is shared among NGO workers and others using GeoCommons. There is an Afghanistan Data Link that broadcasts data back to the U.S. Data from what was happening in Afghanistan was aggregated (i.e., instances of pre-election violence), and mapped so that news agencies and others could understand where things were happening.

GeoCommons is the first open-sourced GeoCoder, allowing anyone to download information.

We are moving beyond street-level geocoding and doing "joins" (identification of any kind of boundary definitions by users). The idea is to allow people to join together any two kinds of data, and link to and make this data available as needed.

Enhancement plans include: Testing with Grants.gov, Recovery.gov, FPDS, and FCC datasets. In addition, we would like to add more catalog and service standards support.

Q: Has GeoCommons been shown to those working on Data.gov?

A: This would enhance capabilities of Data.gov, and some Administration officials are being made aware of this concept. We ought to make them more aware of this in the future.

Q: How are data donors linked to the data they have posted?

A: They are recorded as contributor of data, so the source is apparent when you go back and look at any piece of data.

ACTION: Andrew Turner will make slides available to the Coordination Group.

GeoLoB Work Group Plans Finalization and 2011 Planning – *Lew Sanford, FGDC* **[\[Presentation\]](#)**

Wendy Blake-Coleman presented an overview of some of the questions posed as a follow-up to CG dialogues at the August and September 2009 Coordination Group meetings. The current Lifecycle activities include conversations with 25 CG members, where it was determined that 23 members had affirmative responses on the inclusion of datasets on the list. Two members had no opinion on this. Overall, there has been good progress.

ACTION: The next steps for the Lifecycle Management Work Group are to meet with the CG members on November 5th and go through the validation tool, come to an agreement on process and Wendy Blake-Coleman will bring the results of the discussion back to the Coordination Group and Executive Committee.

Lew led the discussion on the GeoLoB FY10 Work Plans. The work plans were presented at the October CG meeting, and there was consensus around all work groups except for the Geo-Enabled Work Group (GEB). Lew will clarify GEB intent in this presentation in order to show how GEB plans on supporting place-based policies. Additionally, he would like to seek the group's endorsement of the FY10 work plan for GEB.

GEB's support of place-based policies will come from measurement of performance of these policies, as well as agency support in their implementation of place-based policies. GEB actions in this realm would include: developing a curriculum to support agency needs and creating a "tiger team" with OMB support to assist agencies with the use/applications of place-based strategies.

GEB's approach to assisting with place-based policies in agencies will include an emphasis on both training and consultation. GEB can help agencies define their business requirements to meet place-based requirements, assist them in determining what kind of data can be geo-enabled, assist them in identifying geospatial information that is available through external sources that might help them meet their needs, and helping them assess how well they are performing in meeting place-based policy needs.

Lew asked the CG for questions and feedback on the clarity of the GEB work group's approach.

Comment: If you collect geospatial data from people, you need OMB's approval. Therefore, you ought to ask for OMB to tell you that you don't need permission to collect data. This could save a lot of time.

Comment: Should the CG look at existing policies and work with others to come up with a proposal to OMB?

Comment: We need to seek out agencies' advice on what kind of help they need from us. What types of questions are they asking? What do they need? That might be a good starting point.

Lew asked the group for consensus on ratification of the FY2010 Workplans, including the direction of the GEB Work Group. There were no objections.

Common Services WG could use more assistance with leveraging acquisition opportunities. Lifecycle has some activities in their workplan that relate to portfolio management that will continue into FY 2011/2012. A review process will need to be implemented. Lew asked the CG what major elements should be focused on in FY 2011. CG members are asked to follow up with Lew on FY 2011 priorities. Lew will send out a notice to organize a brainstorming session on GeoLoB next steps for FY2011.

Action Item Review – *Arista Maher and Ken Shaffer*

The actions (listed above) were read out to the Coordination Group.

Adjourn