

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 93-17
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION;
RESCINDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 91-19**

I, ARNE H. CARLSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

WHEREAS, the management of geographic information about the character and location of the state's natural and cultural resources, and the human and economic activities that affect and are affected by those resources, is essential to all levels of government, state, local, and federal, in the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate the various activities in geographic information systems (GIS) and land information systems (LIS) in order to better exchange and share information and to enhance the stewardship of geographic information in the management of public resources; and

WHEREAS, the current Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium, a volunteer organization, has been engaged in a variety of educational, communications, and information sharing activities but lacks the explicit authority to recommend standards, policies, and guidelines; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to recommend standards, policies, and guidelines to the Information Policy Office and other units of government for developing and sharing geographic information; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to avoid duplication of effort so as to reduce the costs that would otherwise be involved if each organization developed its own GIS capabilities independently; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a formal forum in order to discuss, debate, and decide issues related to geographic information; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to prioritize and schedule the development of public-funded data programs, define the roles and responsibilities for data stewardship, and formulate the policies for the access, distribution, and pricing of data; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to initiate a geographic information clearinghouse in order to consolidate data into libraries, integrate data into common formats, and distribute data to users; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide organizational structure, financial support, and personnel direction to a statewide approach for developing and managing geographic information; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide education, training, and support for users of geographic information toward their better management of public resources; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to modify Executive Order 91-19 to reflect the transfer by the 1993 Legislature of certain GIS and LIS responsibilities from the Commissioner of Administration to the Director of the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning;

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby order that:


1. The Governor's Council on Geographic Information (hereinafter referred to as Council) shall be formally established.
2. The Council shall be appointed by the Director of the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning who shall solicit nominations from the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium and other interested groups. The Council shall be composed of not more than 18 members with knowledge and interest in the GIS field representing state government, higher education, local government, federal government, and GIS user(s) in the private sector. The Director of the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning shall appoint a chair for the Council.
3. The Council shall formulate and adopt a charter for its own operation and the formation of topical advisory committees. No more than 15 members may be reimbursed for expenses as provided in Minnesota Statutes 1992, Section 15.0593.
4. The Council shall receive administrative staff support from the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning, technical staff support from the Land Management Information Center, and advice from the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium.
5. The Council shall prepare an annual report by June 30th of each year to the Governor, to be submitted through the Director of the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning, describing accomplishments from the previous year and plans and recommendations for the future.
6. The Council's annual report on June 30, 1994 shall include recommendations to the Governor on the future organizational structure for the Council and recommendations for addressing the needs described in this executive order.

7. Standards developed by the Council must go through the Information Policy Office standards approval process.

Executive Order 91-19 is rescinded.


Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1992, Section 4.035, subd. 2, this Order shall be effective fifteen (15) days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in effect until rescinded by proper authority or it expires in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 1992, Section 4.035, subd. 3.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand this eighteenth day of August, 1993.



ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor

Filed According to Law:



JOAN ANDERSON GROWE
Secretary of State

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED

AUG 18 1993


Secretary of State