



Progressing on Course

Minnesota Governor's Council
on Geographic Information
Fiscal Year 1995 Annual Report

June 30, 1995

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Minnesota Planning is charged with developing a long-range plan for the state, stimulating public participation in Minnesota's future and coordinating public policy with state agencies, the Legislature and other units of government.

June 1995

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Cover: Map is from the U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 Verndale, Minnesota quadrangle.

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PROGRESSING ON COURSE

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SUMMARY



Information about the character and location of Minnesota's natural and cultural resources and their relationship to the state's human and economic activities is essential to making decisions about Minnesota's future. In response to this need, geographic information systems technology has proliferated rapidly in recent years among all levels of government in Minnesota, as well as in the higher education and private sectors.

The Governor's Council on Geographic Information was created by Governor Arne H. Carlson in August 1991 to help coordinate the use and development of geographic information among all levels of government in Minnesota and to provide policy-level support to Minnesota's GIS users.

Fiscal year 1995 was an active and ambitious one for the council. Following the guiding principles it established in fiscal year 1994, the council pursued a number of initiatives related to the coordination of investments in GIS technology, efficient access to geographic data, and development of standards and guidelines that promote sharing of information. The council and its four committees markedly increased their outreach and visibility by working together with a broad cross-section of policy-makers and GIS users.

The council's Data Coordination Committee analyzed the results of its statewide survey of Minnesota GIS users and their needs for new and improved data. The survey found that parcel and soils data sets are in most demand. It confirmed that many GIS users are not aware of the availability of important, existing data sets. The survey also served to inventory geographic data, hardware and software in use around the state, identifying resources that might be available for sharing. The council has put an electronic version of the inventory results on the Internet's World Wide Web.

The Investments and Funding Committee researched GIS funding legislation passed or proposed in other states to provide background for the development of a funding model for Minnesota. The Data Access Committee identified

barriers inhibiting access to geographic information and began to develop a conceptual framework for a statewide data clearinghouse that would act as a single point of entry for information about the availability of geographic data. The committee also forged a strong connection with the Department of Administration's Government Information Access Council.

The council's GIS Standards Committee brought together the major geographic data-producing state agencies to discuss their internal standards development activities. The committee gained approval for Minnesota's first official state data standard and put out a second standard for review. It prepared a formal response, representing federal, state, regional and local interests, to a proposed federal standard for managing land records information.

During fiscal year 1995, the council also took up four additional issues: the survival of the U.S. Geological Survey, the status of the Minnesota Department of Transportation base map, the development of the state's global positioning system base station network and the council's internal policy on grants, endorsements and collaborations.

The Governor's executive order requires the council to make a recommendation to the Governor on its future organizational structure. Over the past year, the council reexamined organizational alternatives studied in previous years and reviewed its current goals and organization. Based on this review, the council recommends retention of its current structure and Minnesota Planning as its appointing authority. The council will periodically review its structure and function to ensure that its vision and activities are continuing to address the needs of the Minnesota GIS community.

Fiscal year 1996 initiatives will continue to address the following areas of concern:

- Coordinated investments in GIS data and technology
- Access to geographic data

■ Standards and guidelines for geographic information

The council will continue to serve as an open forum for the discussion of timely, statewide policy issues. It will encourage broad involvement by GIS users and policy-makers in its activities and on-going evaluation of its mission. The council looks forward to continuing to positively influence the development of Minnesota's geographic information resources by pursuing initiatives that promote efficiency and a broad public benefit.

INTRODUCTION



fiscal year 1995 was a year of initiative and action for the Governor's Council on Geographic Information. Following its mission to coordinate and improve Minnesota's growing geographic information technology resources, the council pursued a number of timely initiatives related to future technology investments, information access and data standards. It also markedly increased its outreach and visibility by establishing a strong presence at Minnesota's annual geographic information systems conference and by involving a broad cross-section of policy-makers and GIS users in its four committees.

The council was created by Governor Arne H. Carlson in August 1991 through an executive order. It is comprised of 18 members appointed annually by the director of Minnesota Planning. They are drawn from state agencies, federal and local governments, higher education and the private sector. Administrative and technical support is provided by the Land Management Information Center at Minnesota Planning.

The council's mission is to promote efficient and effective use of resources by providing leadership and direction in the development, management and use of geographic information in Minnesota. The council makes recommendations in areas including, but not limited to, policies, institutional arrangements, standards, education and stewardship.

The council uses the following basic principles as a foundation for its activities and priorities:

- Promote efficient investments in geographic information.
- Promote the sharing of geographic data, expertise and knowledge of hardware and software tools.
- Promote geographic data as a public resource that should be widely available to interested parties at reasonable cost.

- Support the establishment of geographic data standards and guidelines to better exchange and share information resources.

- Encourage the development of the geographic information system knowledge base within state and local governments and the academic and private sectors.

- Influence a broad spectrum of decision-makers.

- Provide a major forum where ideas and issues of the GIS community in Minnesota can be brought forward, discussed and acted upon, as appropriate.

The executive order establishing the council specifies that a yearly report be made to the Governor. This annual report, *Progressing on Course*, describes the council's accomplishments of the previous year and explains the council's recommendation for a permanent organizational structure. It also proposes initiatives for fiscal year 1996 to continue the ambitious agenda of this year's council.

A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Through the efforts of its members and committee volunteers, the Governor's Council on Geographic Information made significant progress this past year on the initiatives it identified at the beginning of fiscal year 1995. These initiatives fall into five general areas:

- Coordinated investments in GIS
- Access to geographic data
- Standards and guidelines for geographic information
- Forum for timely discussion of GIS policy issues
- Permanent council structure

This report describes the council's accomplishments in each of these major areas, identifying specific actions and recommendations of the council during the past year.

Coordinated Investments in GIS

Ranking Statewide Data Development Needs

Data is the single largest expenditure for users of GIS technology. Reducing the costs of data and promoting greater efficiency and coordination in GIS investments will benefit geographic data users and the citizens of Minnesota. In keeping with its guiding principle to promote efficient investments in geographic information, the council undertook an extensive effort to collect information about the use of GIS in Minnesota and needs for new and improved geographic data.

Members of the council's Data Coordination Committee, chaired by William Craig of the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, performed a detailed analysis of the results of the survey. They found that the highest demand across the whole spectrum of GIS users is for par-

cel and soils data sets. GIS users also want a minimum scale of 1:24,000 for natural resource data and 1:2,400 or finer for urban data.

The survey also found that many of the data sets in highest demand either already exist or soon will be available as a result of state or federal government initiatives. State and federal programs are underway to deliver new 1:24,000 data for wetlands, land use and land cover, public land survey coordinates, road centerlines, hydrologic features and digital orthophotographs.

Over the next year, the council's Investments and Funding Committee will closely investigate the status of the parcel and soils data sets and recommend strategies for developing them. Developing these data at the state agency level would provide uniformity across the state and savings through economies of scale. An alternative strategy would be to decentralize data development, placing it at the county level while providing for technical assistance, standards and guidelines, and possible financial assistance from the state.

The committee also will use the survey to look at the costs and benefits of additional data and to identify low-cost, high-benefit investment opportunities.

The survey confirmed that many GIS users are not aware of the availability of important data sets. The council's Data Access Committee will continue exploring the creation of a statewide spatial data clearinghouse, among other opportunities, to promote the availability of existing data.

Reports describing the detailed findings of the survey and a computer file of the raw survey results are available from the Land Management Information Center.

Developing Concepts for Funding GIS Initiatives

To help set priorities for statewide investments in GIS, the council formed the Investments and

Funding Committee, chaired by Jeffrey Grosso, Goodhue County surveyor. The committee focused this past year on examining possible strategies for legislative funding of GIS. To begin developing a funding model for Minnesota, the committee researched legislation passed or proposed in other states. It found that only Wisconsin has passed a statewide GIS funding bill. A statewide funding bill was also proposed in New York. The Michigan legislature funded the restoration of its public land survey system, and while this has had an important impact on the state's GIS activity, it has not directly promoted a coordinated approach to geographic data development.

These legislative approaches had six elements in common:

- Created a dedicated fund to aid local units of government in GIS development
- Provided funding through fees or taxes on real property transfers, recording fees, or deed and real property taxes
- Created a regulatory body and defined its members, mission, duties and powers
- Required local units of government to adopt a GIS plan, approved by the regulatory body, before granting funds
- Returned a portion of the funds collected from local units of government to units that participate in GIS development
- Assigned to the regulatory body the responsibility for coordinating data collection and maintaining a data inventory at the state level

During the next year, the Investments and Funding Committee will issue a report highlighting successful coordination efforts in other states and methods for disbursing local government funds. The report will assess whether programs such as Wisconsin's are meeting their legislative objectives and whether any aspects of their legislation should be adapted for use in Minnesota.

Access to Geographic Data

Promoting the Sharing of Data, Expertise and Technical Knowledge

The council's GIS survey also served to inventory geographic data, hardware and software in use around the state, identifying resources that might be available for sharing among users.

This past year, the council's Data Coordination Committee directed LMIC to organize the GIS inventory into a format for easy distribution. In addition to hard copy and diskette versions, LMIC began developing an electronic version available through the World Wide Web on the Internet. Data and hardware and software information can be searched by organization. This query system will be further refined in fiscal year 1996 and will be available for viewing at the council's exhibition booth at the 1995 Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium Conference.

The council's home page and GIS inventory results can be accessed by pointing an Internet browser to <http://www.lmic.state.mn.us/gc/gc.htm>.

Identifying Data Access and Sharing Issues

To identify data access and sharing issues for further study, the council formed the Data Access Committee, co-chaired by Mary Welfling of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Office of Information Policy and Carl Hardzinski of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Minneapolis Area Office.

The committee identified a number of barriers inhibiting access to geographic information:

- Lack of knowledge regarding data availability
- Lack of sufficient data documentation, or metadata
- Cost
- Lack of common data formats

- Inconsistencies in distribution media
- Uncertainty regarding legal and liability issues such as data redistribution guidelines, copyright policy, open records law and charge-back policies
- Lack of common formats on the Internet
- Inadequate follow-up consultation once data are exchanged
- Lack of interest in sharing data

The committee acknowledged that a distinction needs to be made between access to geographic data by the public and data sharing among agencies with GIS expertise. Some of the access needs of these two groups overlap, others differ. For state agencies, the development of better mechanisms to share key data sets and use common data formats will improve access to geographic information. For the public, a simple, straightforward point of entry to information is needed. Access issues are complicated by the fact that the physical infrastructure for electronic access to geographic information is highly variable around the state. Many local governments, schools, libraries and businesses do not have Internet access. The broad range of skills and capabilities of Minnesota's GIS users and citizens must be considered as the information access needs of both are examined.

Developing a Framework for a Statewide Clearinghouse

Out of all the data access issues affecting Minnesota, the Data Access Committee decided to focus on developing a framework for a statewide data clearinghouse. As a single point of entry for information about the availability of geographic data, the clearinghouse would address many of the access issues deemed important by the council and the GIS user community.

The committee examined background material and several earlier proposals for a clearinghouse, identifying the main components of such a function

and some of the issues around them. These components and issues are:

- **Physical storage and access.** What hardware and software would a clearinghouse require? What systems would be needed for storing clearinghouse data and metadata?
- **Guidelines for selecting data.** How would criteria and priorities be established for determining which data sets are included in the clearinghouse?
- **Access mechanisms.** How would data and metadata be accessed and distributed? How would clearinghouse metadata requirements and standards affect support services?
- **Support services.** What services and support could clearinghouse users expect? Who should provide these services?
- **Data stewardship.** Who would be responsible for data in the clearinghouse? What would be the roles and responsibilities of agencies contributing data to the clearinghouse? Who would keep the data and metadata updated?
- **Responsible agency.** Should there be a coordinating body in charge of managing and setting policy for the clearinghouse?
- **Standards.** Should data format and metadata standards be established for the clearinghouse?
- **Value-added services.** What opportunities should exist for the clearinghouse to modify and develop data as requested by clearinghouse users for a fee?
- **Pricing, legal issues and other policy concerns.** How would clearinghouse costs be covered? Should data be copyrighted, placing restrictions on its dissemination? How would proprietary or sensitive data be managed?

The first four of these components are considered core ones because they are necessary for the basic functioning of the clearinghouse. It is on these that the committee will concentrate its initial efforts.

During the next year, the Data Access Committee will continue to develop the clearinghouse model. The committee will develop alternative ways of structuring the clearinghouse, from a highly decentralized model in which only metadata is kept in a central location, to a much more centralized model where data and metadata are both maintained in a single location. It will complete a report summarizing its recommendations and provide a timetable for implementing a clearinghouse. The committee also will discuss the other functions of the clearinghouse model in more depth, coordinating as needed with the council's GIS Standards Committee and the Department of Administration's Government Information Access Council.

Developing a Link with the Government Information Access Council

Much of the work being done by the Department of Administration's Government Information Access Council, created by the 1994 Legislature, parallels the broader information access concerns of the Governor's Council on Geographic Information.

GIAC members have been charged with addressing public policy issues related to pricing, open records law and liability that have strong implications for statewide geographic information management policy.

The council has forged a strong connection with the GIAC and its concerns. During the past year, a GIAC staff member served on the council's Data Access Committee. The council also has made efforts to ensure that geographic information is incorporated into GIAC's North Star Demonstration Project, a collaborative effort to demonstrate the potential use of the Internet for public electronic access to government information and services.

The council also supported the participation of Judy Winiecki, Department of Natural Resources Survey and Mapping Unit supervisor, in the Bush Leadership Fellows Program. She has agreed to work closely with the Data Access Committee on access policy issues following her period of study at the University of Maine, Orono.

Standards and Guidelines for Geographic Information

Coordinating the Development of State Data Standards

The council continued to pursue several important initiatives related to another of its key guiding principles — to support the establishment and use of geographic data standards and guidelines.

The council's GIS Standards Committee, chaired by Christopher Cialek of LMIC, moved its first standard — codes for the identification of the states — through the formal standards ratification process adopted in 1994. The standard was approved by the state's Information Policy Council. The Department of Administration's Information Policy Office registered this code as the state's first official data standard.

The committee also began the review process for a second data standard — numeric codes that identify Minnesota counties. A call for review of the proposed new standard was distributed widely through newsletters of the Association of Minnesota Counties and the Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium. The council plans to complete the approval process for this standard in fiscal year 1996.

To promote the value of geographic data standards, the committee began developing a presentation package that describes the benefits of standards, costs of compliance and examples of standards use. This work will continue in fiscal year 1996.

The committee also began evaluating and testing a spatial metadata guideline being developed at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources that may become a statewide model. Such a guideline would promote the consistent reporting of data content and quality by all geographic data creators in Minnesota. The Data Access Committee also evaluated this metadata guideline for possible applicability to the spatial data clearinghouse.

Finally, the council's GIS Standards Committee prepared a formal response to a proposed federal standard for managing land records, or parcel, information. A 12-member task force representing federal, state, regional and local interests reviewed this highly complex, 375-page technical document, *Cadastral Standards for the National Spatial Data Infrastructure*. The task force developed a series of detailed recommendations and submitted a formal report to the Federal Geographic Data Committee in May 1995. The recommendations were to:

- Coordinate this cadastral standards effort with other federal data administration activities.
- Make a commitment to address the issue of a national parcel identification numbering scheme.
- Initially promote this as a cadastral guideline, rather than a standard, during the time it takes to help federal, state and local governments with refinements and testing.
- Begin immediately to develop explanatory materials targeted to the wide variety of organizations working with this potential standard.
- Modify the proposed standard to better accommodate a variety of surveying practices.

Identifying Needed Data Standards

In its continuing effort to assess the need for future geographic data standards, the GIS Standards Committee this year also took stock of standards development activities underway in Minnesota. The committee brought together the major data-producing state agencies to discuss their internal standards development activities.

In fiscal year 1996, the committee will hire a research intern to investigate the use of existing ad hoc standards around the state. These will be catalogued, evaluated and distributed for broader use.

Forum for Timely Discussion of GIS Policy Issues

Providing a Forum for Discussion and Action

During fiscal year 1995, the council took up four additional issues of importance to Minnesota:

- Survival of the U.S. Geological Survey
- Status of the MNDOT base map
- Development of the state's global positioning system base station network
- Policy on grants, endorsements and collaborations

Congressional threats to funding for the USGS prompted the council to express its concern to congressional representatives. The council affirmed that the USGS plays a unique and essential role in Minnesota's geographic information community by providing high-quality information, fostering cooperation, developing standards and making information readily accessible. In its letter to Pete Domenici, chairman of the Senate Committee on the Budget, the council wrote, "The digital data products of the USGS provide the fundamental information that fuels GIS for state and local government....The long history of cooperation between the USGS and Minnesota serves as a fine example of how state and federal governments can work together, eliminating wasteful and expensive duplication of effort while better serving citizens."

Minnesota Department of Transportation staff briefed the council on the status and availability of digital data used to produce the MNDOT base map. This data set is important to GIS users because of its political boundary and road features, 1:24,000 scale and statewide coverage. The council, through its Data Access Committee, agreed to help MNDOT develop a coordinated approach to distributing this data. MNDOT staff will continue to update the council on important policy issues related to the base map's public availability.

The council was also briefed on the activities of the state's Global Positioning System Base Station Task Force. The council formed a GPS Policy Committee, chaired by Richard Elhardt of Northern States Power Company, that will address funding, accuracy and other issues related to base station development.

The council developed a policy on grants to clarify its role in reviewing, evaluating, managing and cooperating on grant proposals. The council agreed to evaluate a series of grant proposals when requested, make statements regarding a single proposal's merit or act as a grant cooperator. The council's response or involvement would be determined by the grant's impact on furthering council objectives, guiding principles and approved initiatives. A copy of this policy is available from LMIC.

In keeping with its policy on grants and interest in improving GIS knowledge among local governments, the council agreed to play a role in a fiscal year 1996 project funded by the Intergovernmental Information Systems Advisory Council. The goals of the project are to develop a needs analysis for parcel-based GIS development at the city and county levels and to determine the costs and benefits of developing a statewide program to fund parcel-based GIS. The council has agreed to review the request for proposal, analyze submitted proposals, provide direction to the project team and help disseminate the final project report.

Increasing the Council's Visibility

The council had a visible presence at the 1994 Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium Conference, attended by 500 people from all sectors across the state. All conference participants received a questionnaire inviting them to recommend council initiatives for the coming year. The 91 responses helped the council set its priorities. The council also sponsored a panel discussion in which council committee chairpersons summarized their group's activities and engaged in dialogue with the audience regarding concerns for the coming year. Council members also staffed an exhibit booth, which helped to recruit many new committee

members and encouraged discussion with members of the GIS community.

Plans for the 1995 conference include council-sponsored panel discussions related to GIS policy issues, an exhibition booth adjoining the Government Information Access Council's, a brochure summarizing council activities and opportunities for committee participation and a survey to all conference registrants regarding the council's visibility and impact.

The council will continue to pursue as many opportunities as possible throughout the year to promote discussion with the GIS user community about statewide policy issues. Council members are always available to the GIS community for presentations on council initiatives and concerns. Newsletter articles about the council in a variety of state and local government publications also reinforce the council's role as a forum for discussion.

Permanent Council Structure

The Governor's executive order requires the council to make recommendations to the Governor on its future organizational structure. Over the past year, the council reexamined organizational alternatives studied by council members in previous years. Based on this research and the council's current goals and organizational setting, the council recommends retention of its current structure. Minnesota Planning should continue to be the appointing authority.

The council should work with Minnesota Planning to ensure continued funding, a timely appointment process and the annual retention of a majority of council members to maximize continuity between years. Terms of appointment should be changed to two years and staggered so that all do not expire in the same year. Guidelines should be established for the removal of members who are not able to actively participate throughout their term.

The council should periodically review its structure and function to ensure that its vision and activities are addressing the needs of the Minnesota GIS/LIS community. This evaluation should include:

- Self-examination and analysis as a component of the annual report
- Analysis of feedback on council activities and purpose from the users and beneficiaries of GIS technology
- Evaluation of past council activities and outlining of anticipated activities as part of the host agency's biennial budget review

In addition, the council's Investments and Funding Committee should continue to research what other states have done to promote GIS and develop successful funding strategies. The findings of this committee and demands for additional GIS funding in Minnesota may prompt the council to develop a recommendation for a different organizational structure in the future.

INITIATIVES PROPOSED FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Based on its guiding principles, the needs outlined in its executive order, the perspective provided by its diverse membership and the greater GIS community, and initiatives begun in fiscal year 1995, the council proposes that the fiscal year 1996 council pursue the following initiatives:

Investments

- Develop a coordinated approach to statewide funding of GIS development.
- Evaluate GIS funding in other states for its applicability to Minnesota.
- Recommend investment strategies for developing statewide parcel and soils data.
- Examine low-cost, high-benefit data development opportunities.

Data Access

- Develop policy recommendations for a statewide spatial information clearinghouse.
- Improve access to the GIS survey results through the Internet.
- Develop effective ways to promote the availability of geographic data sets in high demand.
- Continue to coordinate with the Government Information Access Council and promote the role of geographic information in the North Star Demonstration Project.

Standards

- Help to coordinate the development of statewide geographic data standards and guidelines.
- Prepare educational materials that describe the benefits and costs of geographic data standards.
- Develop and promote a statewide spatial meta-data guideline.
- Document and evaluate de facto standards in use around the state.

Forum for Issues

- Have an active presence at the 1995 Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium Conference.
- Address policy issues related to global positioning system base station development.
- Provide a forum for ideas and issues of importance to Minnesota's GIS community.

Outreach and Evaluation

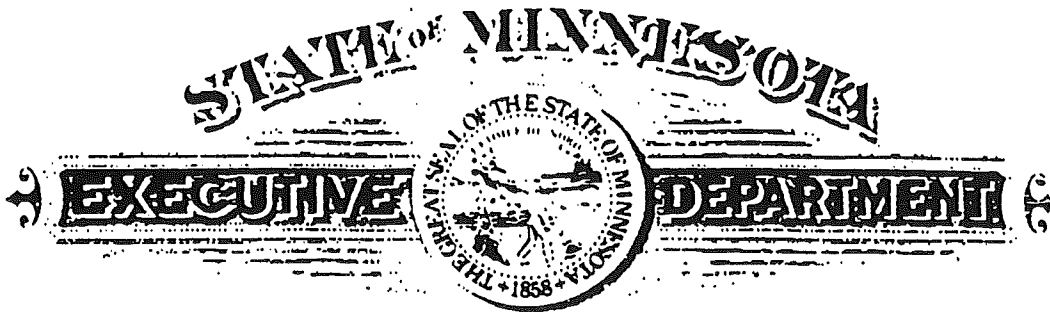
- Enhance the council's presence on the Internet to share information about council activities and promote opportunities for participation.
- Annually review council activities to ensure that they are contributing to a broad statewide vision and direction for GIS in Minnesota.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES



The following documents, many of which have been mentioned in this report, are available from LMIC by contacting the council staff coordinator, (612) 296-1208; e-mail lauram@lmic.state.mn.us.

- Analysis of the 1994 survey of Minnesota GIS users: Adequacy of the current data and needs for new or improved data (May 1995)
- By-laws of the Governor's Council on Geographic Information (November 1993)
- Council policy on grants, endorsements and collaborations (April 1995)
- Letter to congressional representatives regarding the U.S. Geological Survey (April 1995)
- *Mapping a Course of Action: Fiscal Year 1994 Annual Report of the Governor's Council on Geographic Information* (June 1994)
- Permanent council structure background statement and recommendation (May 1995)
- Report of the Minnesota GPS Base Station Task Force (September 1994)
- Review of the *Proposed Cadastral Standards for the NSDI* (May 1995)
- Survey of Current GIS Data and Needs: Technical Report (May 1995)



**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

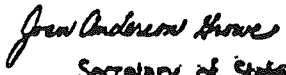
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Secretary of State

FISCAL YEAR 1995 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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University of Minnesota (chair)
David Arbeit, Land Management Information Center
Michael Baker, Land Management Information
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Roberta Casey, Minnesota Department of Transportation
Jim Krautkremer, Intergovernmental Information
Systems Advisory Council
Les Maki, Minnesota Department of Natural
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Doug Thomas, Board of Water and Soil Resources
Ben Verbick, Local Government Information Systems
Association

Investments and Funding Committee

Jeffrey Grosso, Goodhue County (chair)
David Arbeit, Land Management Information Center
Roger Brand, Dodge County
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H. Eugene Hippe, Mid-Minnesota Development
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Fred Logman, Minnesota Counties Computer
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John Lunde, Technical Associates in Geographic
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Tim O'Hara, Minnesota Forest Industries

Data Access Committee

Carl Hardzinski, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Minneapolis Area Office (co-chair)
Mary Welfling, Minnesota Department of
Transportation (co-chair)
Tom Bisch, Heritage Development
Justin Blum, Minnesota Department of Health
Christopher Cialek, Land Management Information
Center
Steven Clift, Government Information Access
Council, Minnesota Department of Administration
Kari Craun, Mid-Continent Mapping Center, U.S.
Geological Survey
Brian Johnson, Minnesota Department of Health

Carol Johnston, Natural Resources Research Institute,
University of Minnesota-Duluth
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Inc.
Les Maki, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Jim Ramstrom, Land Management Information Center
Ken Saffert, City of Mankato
Wendy Treadwell, Machine Readable Data Center,
University of Minnesota
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