



# Kentucky Geographic Information Advisory Council

## *Meeting Agenda*

April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 :: 10:00am – 11:30am

### Virtual Meeting

- I. Call to Order – Welcome – *Chair*
- II. Council Business
  - A. Roll Call – *Carney*
  - B. Approval of Minutes – *Chair*
  - C. Subcommittee Reports
    - 1. GIS Job Classification Subcommittee – *Welch*
    - 2. KyFromAbove Technical Advisory Subcommittee – *NTR*
    - 3. Public Buildings & School Safety Mapping Layer Standards – *Graham*
  - D. Next Generation 911 Announcement & Status Report – *Sunseri*
  - E. GIS Data Sharing Report
    - 1. PVA Parcel Data – Agency Data Sharing Agreements & Availability Status – *Gordon*
  - F. Kentucky Office of Broadband Development – *Sandfoss*
  - G. State Board of Elections GIS Overview – *House & Henderson*
  - H. KyFromAbove Program Report – *Anness*
    - 1. 2025 LiDAR Acquisition & Funding Update
    - 2. KyFromAbove Imagery Program Status
      - a. Phase3 Imagery Status
      - b. Survey Results
      - c. GIAC Resolution and Letters of Support
  - I. Legislative Items Report – *Anness*
    - 1. HB19
    - 2. HB550
  - J. KAMP Announcement – Quarterly Meeting
  - K. New Business – *Chair*
- III. Adjournment

# Geographic Information Advisory Council (GIAC) minutes – 1/15/25

Virtual Meeting via *Microsoft Teams*

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## MEMBERS ATTENDING:

1. Jim Barnhart (*Finance and Administration Cabinet*)
  2. Doug Curl for Mike McGlue (*Kentucky Geological Survey*)
  3. Tommy Druen for Randy Bridges (*Legislative Research Commission*)
  4. David Gordon (*Office of Property Valuation*)
  5. Robert Hackworth (*Kentucky Department of Education*)
  6. Watson Harding for Josh Keats (*Kentucky Office of Homeland Security*)
  7. Charles Higginbotham (*Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet*)
  8. Will Holmes (*Kentucky Transportation Cabinet*)
  9. Keith Jackson (*Justice & Public Safety Cabinet*)
  10. Aaron Jones for Matt Sawyers (*Department for Local Government*)
  11. Rick Jones (*Council on Postsecondary Education*)
  12. Whitley Keltner (*Kentucky League of Cities*)
  13. Laura Krauser for DJ Biddle (*KY Association of Mapping Professionals*)
  14. Kim Morrow (*Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts*)
  15. Jeremy Rogers (*Cabinet for Health and Family Services*)
  16. Meghan Sandfoss (*Kentucky Chapter, American Planning Association*)
  17. Benjamin Shinabery (*Kentucky Association of Professional Surveyors*)
  18. Daniel Skillman (*Kentucky Board of Registered Geologists*)
  19. Rob Thorne for Rebecca Goodman (*Energy and Environment Cabinet*)
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## I. Call to Order/Welcome

Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Kari Welch.

## II. Council Business

### A. Roll Call

Quorum confirmed by Katie Carney with 19 members/designees in attendance at time of roll call.

### B. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the October 30, 2024, meeting was previously provided to members for their review. Motion entered by Kim Morrow to accept minutes as written and distributed, motion seconded by David Gordon, none opposed, minutes adopted.

### C. Subcommittee Reports

- GIS Job Classifications Subcommittee (Kari Welch) – Ms. Welch thanked Rob Thorne, Kim Anness, Will Holmes, and others for their work on the subcommittee. The subcommittee proposed seven new job classifications for state employees under KRS 18A employment. Five of those seven were approved, three levels for a GIS analyst, GIS supervisor, and a GIS manager. The five approved classifications are currently under review by the Office of State Budget Director and upon the OSBD review, they will become active classifications.
- *KyFromAbove* Technical Advisory Subcommittee (Kent Anness) – Mr. Anness announced the subcommittee held a meeting in December and an update was provided. Much of the meeting was spent discussing funding for the imagery program and what types of images would be collected in future years. The subcommittee approved two action items. The first is to create an executive summary for executive branch leadership that highlights and describes the internal and external uses of the data. The second action item is to create a survey for placement on the *KyFromAbove* download page. The survey would request an assortment of information from the user in order to analyze what the data is being used for.

- Kentucky Trail Mapping Workgroup (Lucas Graham) – Mr. Graham announced that trail data has been submitted to the United States Geological Survey. However, USGS has not provided any feedback regarding the data set. The dataset utilized the standards established by the subcommittee and was received from Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, Kentucky State Nature Preserves, and Kentucky State Parks. The dataset is available for viewing on [KY Geonet](#) and [USGS National Trails](#) websites.
- Public Buildings & School Safety Mapping Layer Standards (Kent Anness) – The final stakeholders have confirmed their participation for the subcommittee and a meeting will be scheduled soon. The goal is to adopt an attribute standard.

#### **D. GIS Data Sharing Report (David Gordon)**

Mr. Gordon stated that in January 2024, 70 counties had uploaded PVA parcel data. Today, 105 counties have completed the request to provide and share the parcel data. He is committed to continuing working with the remaining 15 counties and has provided them with information and reassurance that the data is located on a secured website. There are numerous levels of state agencies that currently have access to the data and additional agreements are in the works.

On behalf of the Transportation Cabinet, Will Holmes expressed thanks and appreciation to all counties that have uploaded parcel data.

Mr. Gordon commented that during the PVA fall conference, there was a workshop by the Kentucky Office of Emergency Management and demonstrations as to how the PVA parcel data is utilized by their office.

#### **E. Next Generation 911 Status Report (Watson Harding)**

- There are now 2 PSAPs remaining for completion of statewide GIS dataset and the goal is to have those complete by the end of January. Mr. Harding announced that the initial product will be finished at that point and the next step is to provide maintenance and analysis for improvement. There is currently an RFP in process to find a core services provider.
- Mr. Anness informed members of the current usage statistics from the cloud-based service.

#### **F. KYTC's Updated Interactive Maps (Mitchell Masarik)**

Mr. Masarik provided an overview of the two different public interfacing interactive maps and announced that there is also a [YouTube channel](#) that shows instructions on how to utilize each map. People utilize the maps to look up routes, view roadways thru an expansion of time, and the ability to see the route as it would be driven. The interactive maps provide photo information and customizable fields that are saved within the browser cache. Each map defaults to the most recent data, the historical data is still available.

Another feature is a 3D visualization tool that displays all the airports across the state. The main purpose is to look at the approach surface and confirm nothing is encroaching the landing. The Department of Aviation utilizes this tool to discuss obstacles with private landowners. Pilots are also able to see what the areas look like prior to arriving at the airport and the website provides a link to each airport.

Mr. Shinabery inquired about LiDAR data. Mr. Masarik responded that some point clouds are available. Mr. Will Holmes added that the 3D representation is done from UAS aerial photography. There are lidar sensors on the photolog vans, and Mr. Shinabery inquired if those point clouds are accessible from the vans. Mr. Holmes stated that the data is not exactly a straightforward thing to download right now to make available to the public. Mr. Holmes will try and get Mr. Shinabery connected with the engineer that is responsible for that specific data.

**G. State Board of Elections GIS Overview**

- Mr. Anness announced that the group would not be available to present at the meeting but will be added to the next quarterly meeting agenda. The other topic of discussion will be on broadband.

**H. KyFromAbove Program Report (Kent Anness)**

1. 2024 LiDAR Status
  - The data is in-house, and Phase 2 is now complete. Kentucky is one of the first states in the nation to complete two statewide LiDAR acquisitions.
2. Web Elevation Layers for Phase 1 and Phase 2
  - Are both now live and published. Mr. Anness stated we can send links and a sample scene to view. He added that he is certain there will be utilization of the data that DGI has not thought about.
3. 2025 LiDAR Acquisition Update
  - USGS 3DEP funding is on hold.
4. Oblique Imagery Status & Review
  - 100 percent is now online (without holes) and discussed the integration tools available.
5. Ortho Imagery Status and Review Progress
  - Approximately 47 to 48 percent of the data is available of the statewide coverage. The internal review must be completed by the end of January and prior to the next quarterly meeting, the ortho imagery should be at 100 percent.
6. Imagery Program Funding
  - Mr. Anness stated that individuals are currently working on an executive summary. Laura Krauser, shared that the Kentucky Association of Mapping Professionals (KAMP) has written a [letter](#) for mailing to legislators. Trisha Brush discussed the KAMP letter and requested that the GIAC pass a resolution to encourage the funding of KyFromAbove to be continued.
  - Will Holmes made a motion directing the Division of Geographic Information to draft a resolution for GIAC that provides dedicated funding and support for the KyFromAbove program. The motion was seconded by Kim Morrow and the motion was adopted.
  - Mr. Anness stated that he appreciates KAMP's efforts as one way to get this message out across the state and from multiple organizations. He added that he would like to ask all KAMP members to also reach out to their individual legislators regarding this program.
  - Mr. Shinabery, Kentucky Association of Professional Surveyors, stated that his organization is also concerned and interested in continued funding for the program. He added that he will discuss the KAMP letter and motion approved by GIAC at the association's upcoming meeting. Mr. Anness expressed his thanks and that the more professional organizations that promote and advocate funding for the program will be of great assistance.

**I. Legislative Items Report**

- Mr. Anness announced that so far, the only legislation of interest to GIAC is [HB 19](#). The bill relates to utilizing drones for surveillance and should not impact the KyFromAbove program. However, it will need to be monitored during the legislative session. Mr. Anness added that should any additional legislation of interest be introduced or discussed, it will be forwarded to GIAC members and interested individuals.

**J. New Business**

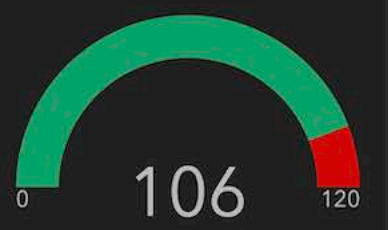
- Ms. Welch stated that nothing new has been reported. Seeing the continuous collaboration and support shows how important GIS truly is. The next council meeting was announced for April 16.

**III. Adjournment**

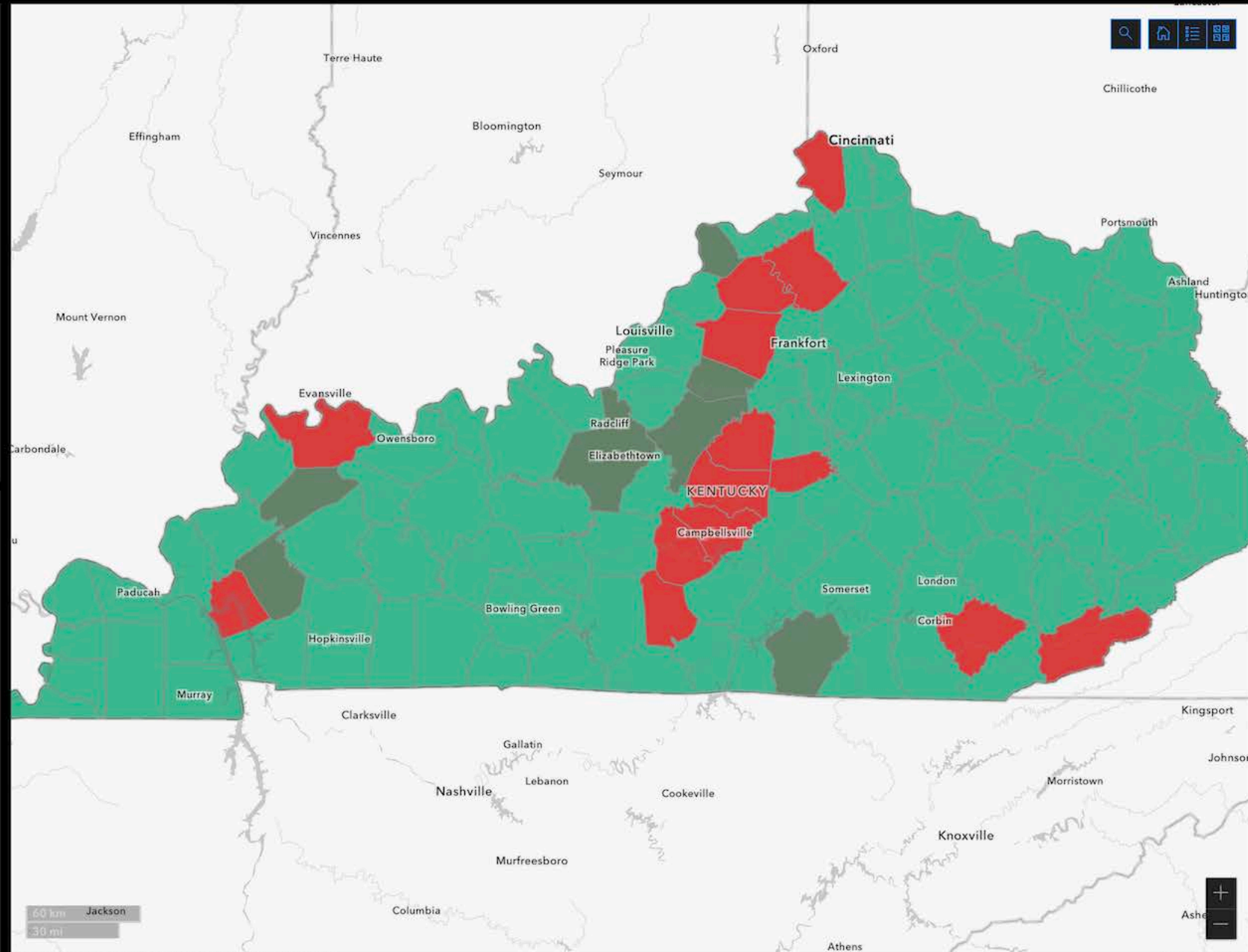
Motion by Kari Welch to adjourn and was seconded by Will Holmes, meeting adjourned at 10:43

a.m.

# Counties with Parcel Data



# Counties with Parcel and Index Data



## Parcel and Index Data by County

PARCEL\_DATA

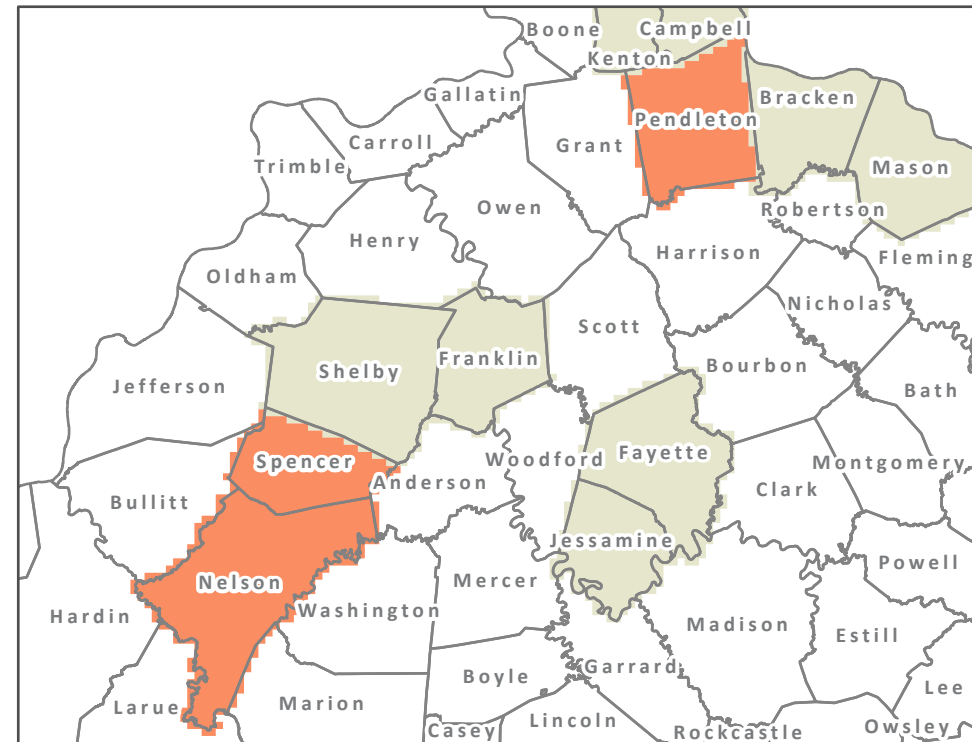
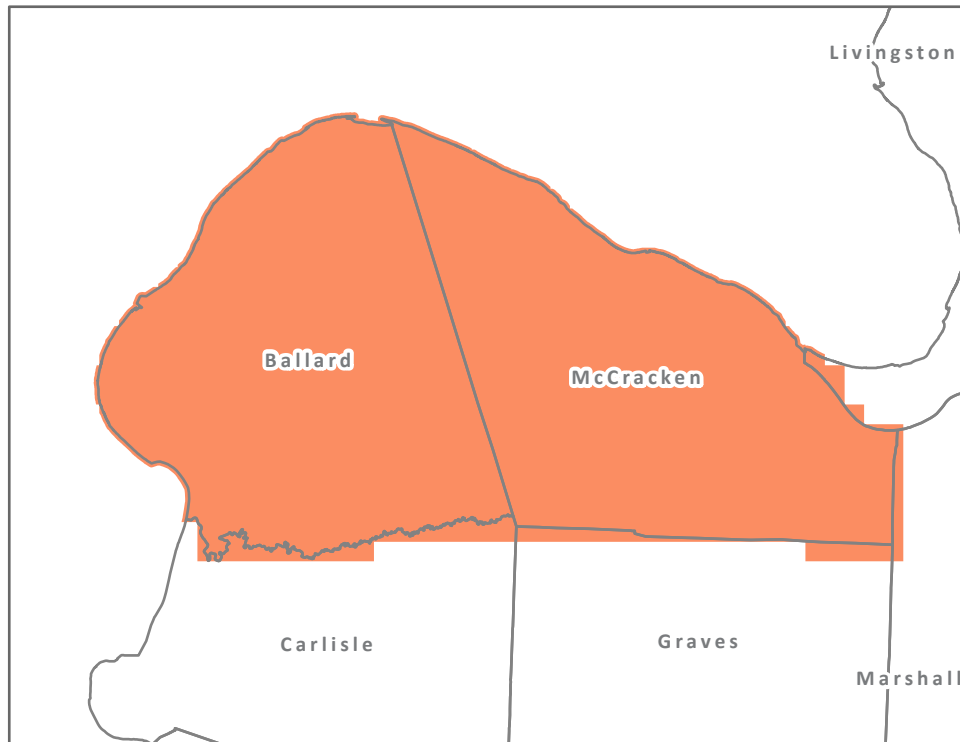
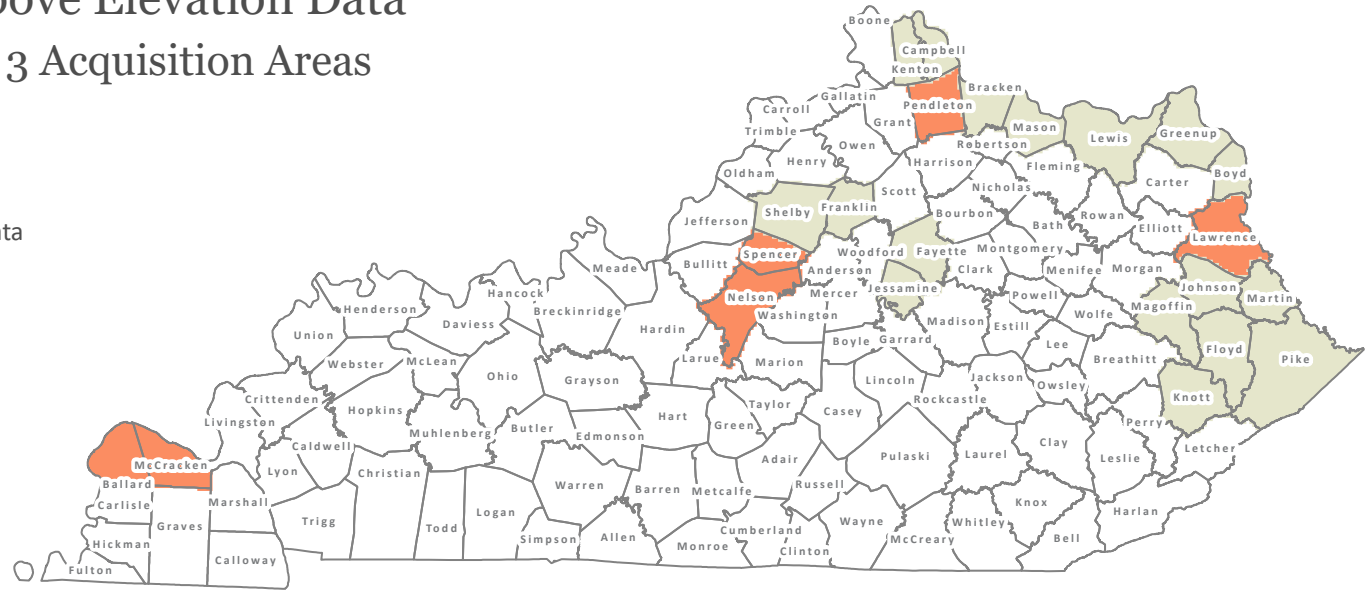
- No Data
- Parcels Shared
- Parcels with Index Shared

## Counties with Parcel Data

Adair
Allen
Anderson
Ballard
Barren
Bath
Bell
Bourbon
Boyd
Bracken
Breathitt
Breckinridge
Bullitt
Butler
Caldwell
Calloway
Campbell
Carlisle
Carroll
Carter
Casey
Christian
Clark
Clay



**Total Square Miles: 1,956**







Kentucky Association of Mapping Professionals  
P.O. Box 1411  
Frankfort, KY 40602

Website: <https://kamp.wildapricot.org/>  
Email: [KAMP.President@kampro.org](mailto:KAMP.President@kampro.org)

Friday, January 10, 2025

The Honorable (First name)(Last name)  
Address City, State (Zip Code)

**RE: Support for Funding Kentucky from Above Program**

Dear (Representative/Senator/Congressman or Congresswoman) (Last name):

I am writing to you as President of the Kentucky Association of Mapping Professionals and on behalf of its Executive Board (\*), in support of the immediate reinstatement of funding for the Kentucky From Above Program in the State Budget.

The Kentucky From Above Program is a vital resource for many stakeholders across the Commonwealth who are unable to subsidize this type of project on their own. We believe removing any legislative funding from this Program will hinder the Commonwealth's ability to respond to natural disasters and deprive our first responders of an unprecedented level of situational awareness.

The above-mentioned Program has had a successful history of managing the procurement and acquisition of both aerial photography and lidar-derived elevation data for the Commonwealth for over a decade and a half. Partnerships with numerous government agencies at all levels (i.e., local, state, federal), and entities from diverse sectors has resulted in making these mission-critical mapping layers available in a timely manner, while adhering to the Commonwealth's high standards of accuracy and precision, already in existence.

The Program has proven throughout its existence that the adoption of an economies of scale pricing model is a sound fiscal approach for a statewide project. Flying large contiguous areas covering multiple counties is more cost effective than a county-by-county approach as the cost of flying and acquiring aerial photography decreases as the number of square miles flown increases.

Not funding of the aerial photography Program will have a negative impact by limiting and delaying access by your constituents to highly accurate and precise mapping layers, particularly by numerous public and private sector stakeholders who rely on this type of information to conduct their daily business and accomplish their mission.

Your support for funding of this necessary government expense through the Kentucky From Above Program can help individual constituents, private companies (e.g., engineering, surveying, construction, real estate), and government agencies throughout your district fulfill their mission of service.

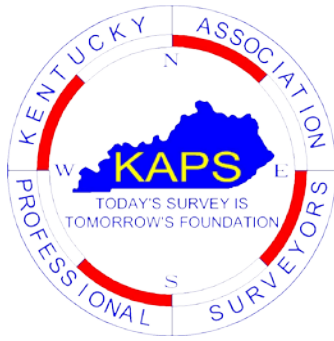
I am happy to discuss this issue further and answer any questions you might have. Thank you again for your support of the Kentucky From Above Program.

Sincerely,

Demetrio P. Zourarakis, Ph.D., GISP, CMS (GIS/LIS, RS, Lidar)  
2025 President, Kentucky Association of Mapping Professionals  
859-537-6295; [demetrio.zourarakis@gmail.com](mailto:demetrio.zourarakis@gmail.com)

(\*) Approved Tuesday, January 14, 2025





## Kentucky Association of Professional Surveyors

P.O. Box 436451 \* Louisville, Kentucky 40253 \* (502) 695-2349

February 6, 2025

The Honorable Jason Petrie  
702 Capitol Ave  
Annex Room 395  
Frankfort, KY 40601

### In Support of Funding for the Kentucky From Above Program

Dear Representative Petrie:

On behalf of the executive Board of Directors of the Kentucky Association of Professional Land Surveyors, I am writing in support of reinstating the funding of the Kentucky From Above Program. ( <https://kyfromabove.ky.gov/> )

For over 15 years, [The Kentucky From Above Program](#) has successfully managed aerial photography and lidar-derived elevation data for the Commonwealth through combined partnerships with various government agencies and sectors including: Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, KY Division of Water, FEMA, KY Dept of Fish & Wildlife, USGS, Abandoned Mines, USFS and more ( <https://kyfromabove.ky.gov/#Partners> ). Its economies of scale pricing model proves cost-effective, covering large statewide areas instead of individual regions funded independently, reducing costs as the flown miles increase. This Program is essential for many stakeholders who cannot fund such a program alone.

Cutting funding will negatively impact access to precise mapping layers for public and private sector stakeholders, delaying essential business operations and missions. Removing legislative funding will hinder disaster response and reduce situational awareness for first responders. Our own land surveying industry uses the data from this statewide source on a daily basis for topographic calculations on small and large projects. Personally, I have used the database on projects such as: The Brent Spence Bridge Project, I-Move, I-65 Central Corridor rehabilitation project, USDA NRCS large conservation projects across the Commonwealth, Economic Development, Department of Fish and Wildlife stream restoration FILO projects, Rails-to-trails, and the July 2023 Eastern KY Flooding response.

Your funding of this program will benefit constituents, private companies, and government agencies in every district. I am available to discuss this further and answer any questions. KAPS as an association can provide you with many applications of this statewide elevation and mapping dataset which supports industry, construction, flood mitigation, forestry, economic development and more.

Thank you for supporting the [Kentucky From Above Program](#).

Sincerely,

**Ben Shinabery, PLS**  
KAPS President elect



**Qk4, Inc.**  
Email: [bshinabery@qk4.com](mailto:bshinabery@qk4.com)  
Direct: 502-719-7884 | Mobile: 502-618-6255  
9920 Corporate Campus Drive, Suite 1200  
Louisville, KY 40223

## **RESOLUTION NO. 1-2025**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE KENTUCKY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCIL ENCOURAGING THE LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE DEDICATED FUNDING AND SUPPORT FOR THE KYFROMABOVE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS**, a duty of the Kentucky Geographic Information Advisory Council is to provide recommendations for the maintenance and funding of a statewide base map which will meet the needs of the largest number of stakeholders in the public and private sector; and

**WHEREAS**, the high-resolution leaf-off aerial photography base map layer is widely used by local, state, and federal government agencies, engineers, surveyors, developers, farmers, contractors, and educators to support their critical business processes; and

**WHEREAS**, the KyFromAbove program has worked for over a decade to acquire aerial photography for this critical basemap layer using an economies of scale approach which is most cost effective for large geographic areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the KyFromAbove program has positioned the Commonwealth as a national leader by completing multiple statewide acquisitions of high-resolution leaf-off aerial photography all of which has been made freely available in the public domain; and

**WHEREAS**, legislative funding supported the KyFromAbove Program's most recent successful statewide acquisition of 3" resolution leaf-off aerial photography, a milestone no other state has achieved; and

**WHEREAS**, KyFromAbove aerial photography has helped the Commonwealth respond to natural disasters, market our state to investors, support the development of new infrastructure, and empower our first responders with an unprecedented level of situational awareness; and

**WHEREAS**, ongoing legislative funding will minimize duplicative spending on aerial photography, ensure aerial photography is captured statewide at a regular interval, and provide access to a critical resource that many Kentucky communities now rely on but cannot afford on their own;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the Kentucky Geographic Information Advisory Council and the many stakeholders it represents, that the body supports ongoing legislative funding for the KyFromAbove aerial photography program.

Approved this 19 day of February, 2025.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GLAC Chairperson

## **I. Legislative Items Report**

HB19: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/25RS/hb19/bill.pdf>

HB550: [https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/25RS/hb550/orig\\_bill.pdf](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/25RS/hb550/orig_bill.pdf)