



Kentucky Geographic Information Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda

January 21st, 2026 :: 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. NSGIC 2025 Geospatial Maturity Assessment Update – *Anness*
 - D. Subcommittee Reports
 - 1. KyFromAbove Technical Advisory Subcommittee – *Anness*
 - 2. Public Buildings & School Safety Mapping Layer Standards Subcommittee – *Graham*
 - 3. Kentucky Trail Data Standard Update – *Hogue*
 - 4. GeoAI Subcommittee – *NTR*
 - 5. WRIS Technical Advisory Committee – *NTR*
 - E. Next Generation 911 Status Report – *Harding*
 - F. GIS Data Sharing Report
 - 1. PVA Parcel Data – Agency Data Sharing Agreements & Availability Status – *Gordon*
 - G. Legislative Items Report
 - 1. Interim Joint Committee on General Government, Finance, Personnel, and Public Retirement (11-5-2025)
 - 2. 2026 Regular Session – HB304
 - H. KyFromAbove Program Report – *Anness*
 - 1. Imagery Program Status
 - a. Funding Status
 - 2. LiDAR Program Status
 - a. 2026 Acquisition Map
 - b. 2027 Acquisition Planning
 - c. LiDAR Specifications Update
 - I. KyTopo Map Series Phase2 Elevation Data Update – *Shearer*
 - J. KAMP Announcements
 - K. New Business – *Chair*
- III. Adjournment

Geographic Information Advisory Council (GIAC) Minutes – October 16, 2025

Virtual meeting via *Microsoft Teams*

Members Attending:

1. Jim Barnhart (*Commonwealth Office of Technology*)
 2. DJ Biddle (*Kentucky Association of Mapping Professionals*)
 3. Randy Bridges (*Legislative Liaison*)
 4. Robert Hackworth (*Kentucky Department of Education*)
 5. Alex Tietz for Rebecca Goodman (*Energy and Environment Cabinet*)
 6. Greg Caufield for David Gordon (*Office of Property Valuation*)
 7. Charles Higginbotham (*Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet*)
 8. Keith Jackson (*Justice and Public Safety Cabinet*)
 9. Roderick Jones (*Council on Postsecondary Education*)
 10. Josh Keats (*Kentucky Office of Homeland Security*)
 11. Jeffrey Kelley (*Kentucky Property Valuation Administrators Association*)
 12. Whitley Keltner (*Kentucky League of Cities*)
 13. Doug Curl for Mike McGlue (*Kentucky Geological Survey*)
 14. Kim Morrow (*Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts*)
 15. Jeremy Rogers (*Cabinet for Health and Family Services*)
 16. Meghan Sandfoss (*Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association*)
 17. Jeremy Ferguson for Jonathan Shell (*Department of Agriculture*)
 18. Daniel Skillman (*Kentucky Board of Registered Geologists*)
 19. Kari Welch (*Finance and Administration Cabinet*)
 20. Ashiq Zaman (*Economic Development Cabinet*)
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I. Call to Order/Welcome

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Barnhart.

II. Council Business

A. Roll Call

Quorum was confirmed by Katie Carney with 20 members or their designees in attendance.

B. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the July 16, 2025, meeting was previously provided to members for their review. Motion entered by Jeff Kelley to accept minutes as written and distributed, motion seconded by Jeremy Ferguson, none opposed, minutes adopted.

C. Introduction of Division of Geographic Information Assistant Director

Boyd Shearer introduced himself to members and expressed his appreciation to being a part of the DGI team.

D. NSGIC 2025 Geospatial Maturity Assessment

Mr. Anness announced that the grades have not been made public yet and he further explained how they were scored and the regularity of the assessment. DGI

will release the grades publicly after NSGIC has released them, but at the moment they are as follows:

- Coordination – A
- NextGen911 – A
- Addresses – A
- Government Units/Boundaries – A
- Elevation – A
- Ortho, Leaf On – C or C+
- Ortho Leaf Off – A or A+
- Geodetic control – A-
- Transportation – B-
- Parcel data (scoring parameters were changed) – D
- Hydrography – will be graded in 2027
- Geo-enabled elections – will be graded in 2027

Mr. Kelley asked Mr. Anness what needs to be done regarding parcel data to increase the grade. Mr. Anness responded that Kentucky needs a single layer and not 120 islands of data. There needs to be a single database with standardized schema behind it. The information within the database needs to be consistent across all counties and must include the information necessary to create metadata from it. He believes that it's mainly the aggregation and accessibility that NSGIC is basing the bulk of the scoring on regarding parcel data.

Mr. Gordon stated that he and Greg Caufield met with Mr. Anness on October 15 and there are now 115 counties that data has been received on and are ready to be placed within a single layer.

Mr. Caufield stated that by learning what the grading standards and structure are, they will be able to adapt and working on increasing the grade for parcel data. He added that by informing the counties as to what is being done with the parcel data, how is it getting shared, who is sharing it, and providing more specific information relating to the final product will entice counties to participate and provide what is needed to reach the goal of a single layer of data with standardization within the database.

E. Subcommittee Reports

1. State Government GIS Jobs

Ms. Welch announced that the Personnel Cabinet has requested a six-month check in for the GIS and IT positions. They asked if there were any IT disciplines that were not captured and if any needs additional levels. Ms. Welch stated that she has received feedback from several cabinets and there is a need for a higher-level GIS position.

2. KyFromAbove Technical Advisory Subcommittee

Mr. Anness announced that the subcommittee recently met, and it continues to discuss different programs. The main topic has been funding. He added that it will likely meet again before the end of the year.

3. Public Buildings and School Safety Mapping Layer Standards Subcommittee

Mr. Graham announced that the subcommittee met on August 28, and it has moved a little closer to defining what a public building should be. Additional links and information will be sent out with the next meeting announcement.

4. **GeoAI Subcommittee**

Mr. Biddle stated that the subcommittee has met twice. During the first meeting he was elected chair, and they outlined a broad agenda of what the subcommittee's work will be: defining GeoAI and adhering to the legislative concept. The subcommittee wants the definition of GeoAI to "speak" the same language as SB 4. The subcommittee has discussed the various types of deliverables and what should be provided for review. Members have been asked if they come across a definition of GeoAI or know of individuals that are subject matter experts to email the chair with the information. The subcommittee's goal is to ensure that the work it is doing will align with other groups across the state.

F. Next Generation 911 Status Report

Mr. Harding presented that they are currently under contract with a company. The switchover is currently scheduled to be the first week of December.

G. GIS Data Sharing Report

1. **PVA Parcel Data – Agency Data Sharing Agreements and Availability Status**

Mr. Gordon announced that they are still holding at 107 counties that parcel data has been received from. There is a statewide PVA conference in December and at that time they will introduce Greg Caufield and his to everyone. Beginning in January, Mr. Caufield's team will be contacting counties to receive and update parcel data. The goal is to be that counties will upload data directly to DGI.

Lori Phillips was introduced. She replaced Mike Tackett in September as the new Division Director for Minerals within the GIS section at the Office of Property Valuation.

Mr. Kelley requested the list of the last 13 counties that have not provided parcel data. He will contact them to encourage those submissions. He thanked Mr. Anness for mentioning the update cycle.

H. KyFromAbove Program Report

1. **LiDAR Program Status**

Mr. Anness announced that DGI has received award notification from USGS regarding funding. This funding will acquire what is shaded in orange on the provided map. He announced there is a funding gap, a smaller acquisition area and the cost per square mile increased.

a. **Funding Status**

If Kentucky continues to seek federal funding, the state will need to adhere to USGS requirements.

Seed money typically received from the Energy and Environment Cabinet via the federal government, is no longer available. Staff is looking for

alternative ways to receive future seed money. It is now time to begin planning for 2027, but funding is a key issue for LiDAR acquisition.

b. 2026 Acquisition Map

Mr. Anness presented to members the acquisition map within the packet of information distributed prior to the meeting.

c. LiDAR Specifications Update

Mr. Anness announced that USGS has made some revisions to their specifications and Kentucky needs to incorporate those. The subcommittee will discuss and present the changes to GIAC to sign off on.

2. Imagery Program Status

Mr. Anness stated that there was not much to talk about. Kentucky is back to square one with funding and hoping for some support during the legislative session.

a. Funding Status

Mr. Anness announced that letters of support requests have been sent to legislators along with in-person meetings with some legislators. Mr. Anness encouraged others to reach out and that we will know more when the legislative session begins, and we follow the executive branch budget process. Mr. Anness requested that anyone that can advocate for KyFromAbove funding to do so.

I. WRIS/GIAC Bill Draft

Mr. Anness stated that there is a bill draft that will create a new board to oversee water systems and there is a new GIS layer with governance structure relating to precincts and city boundary mapping. The bill draft calls for the repeal of statutes relating to GIAC. DGI staff is still working with legislators on these topics and an update will be provided at the next quarterly GIAC meeting.

Senator Williams commented that this was the first version of a bill draft based on Information Technology Oversight Committee meetings. He stressed the need for standardization and to receive data that is not currently being collected. Senator Williams stated that there are multiple vendors available to oversee water resources. He foresees being able to go layer by layer and utilizing lower-level vendors. Senator Williams discovered that the water layer is not accurate and the worst thing to do is to have inaccurate data published. The goal is to get a maintainable layer and to receive funding to keep all layers up to date. Senator Williams views GIAC as a X3 vendor and that he may have been misinformed and was told that the committee did not meet regularly.

Mr. Anness commented that every layer is mapped against the aerial photography. He stressed the need to keep aerial photography up-to-date and current. The accuracy of the aerial photography layer must be maintained, or else all other layers will suffer.

J. Water Resource Information System Technical Advisory Committee

Ms. Sandy Williams, Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, announced that they are reinstating the advisory committee. The WRIS is widely used across the executive branch and the 15 area development districts. The WRIS was designed by

numerous stakeholders to address a broad array of needs, and it stands alone as a one-of-a-kind national system.

The new advisory committee's primary objective is to revisit the attribute standard that was adopted by GIAC in 2002. The standard was updated internally in 2018. The advisory committee will explore digital standards for water and wastewater data.

Ms. Williams stressed that KIA wants to make sure that all levels of government are represented on the advisory committee while she was discussed the committee membership. Ms. Williams added that they are possibly looking to add a few new stakeholders to the committee. KIA and the committee want to work collaboratively to modernize the standard of data.

Senator Williams stated that he hopes vendors will be included on the committee. He stated it is vital to have vendors at the table, especially if they will oversee maintaining the data. Mr. Anness responded that any software utilized should be agnostic. Senator Williams responded that is another reason as to why vendors should be at the table.

K. Kentucky State University GIS Interns

Mr. Graham informed the committee that Kentucky State University (KSU) is looking for intern positions for undergrad and graduate positions. KSU has funding to help support a paid intern that would only be allowed to work 20 hours per week.

Mr. Anness commented that it is very rare for an entity to have interns available for placement and offer to pay the salary. This is a great opportunity.

Mr. Graham stated that if anyone is interested in this opportunity to contact, [Kabita Paudel](#) or [Dr. Buddhi Gyawali](#) at KSU.

Mr. Keats mentioned that the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security would be interested in GIS interns. They would have to work with human resources to increase the current employee cap. He asked that his contact information be passed along, Josiah.keats@ky.gov.

Within the meeting chat, a member commented that the Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) has a great internship program
- <https://eec.ky.gov/Pages/Internships.aspx>

L. KAMP Announcements

Mr. Biddle announced that the 2025 Annual GIS conference was recently held in Florence, Kentucky. New officers were elected, and the slate of officers are on KAMP socials. One of the major goals of KAMP is to support students and during the conference, they were able to award a couple of scholarships. The 2026 annual conference will be held at the Campbell House in Lexington, Kentucky.

The fall quarterly meeting will be on 10/28, and it will be a hybrid meeting held in Murray, Kentucky. Additional information may be found here, [Fall Quarterly 10/28 - Murray, KY](#). The Women in GIS quarterly meeting will be held virtually on 10/31. Additional information may be found here, [Women in GIS Quarterly 10/31 - Virtual](#).

Mr. Anness announced that two individuals associated with GIAC received awards. The State Board of Elections received the exemplary system award. Lucas Graham, DGI staff received the contribution to the GIS community award.

Mr. Biddle informed members that the KAMP website will be updated soon, and a debriefing of the annual conference will be held next Wednesday.

M. New Business

Chairman Barnhart opened the floor for any new business. Seeing none, he thanked the presenters and DGI staff for their support to GIS.

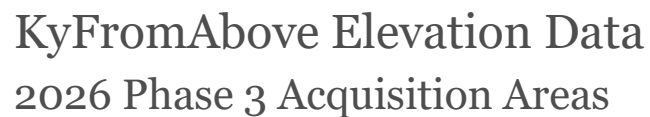
III. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Meghan Sandfoss and seconded by Kari Welch. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Trail Data Collection Standard			Required Fields			
Notes:						
All trails must have a line feature						
All trails must have 1 or more trailheads						
A trailhead may serve multiple trails						
GIS Feature Class Name	Item Names	Item Width	Item Type	# of Decimals	Description - All Entries must be in uppercase	Domain/Valid Range
Recreation Trails	TRAIL_NAME	150	Text		Name of the Trail. If the trail has more than 1 name please list both names (i.e. Sheltowee Trace and Rough Trail)	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAIL_ID	75	Text		Internal Trail ID for maintaining agency	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	OWNER	75	Text		Owner of the Trail. If the OWNER is a City, do not use 'CITY OF'.	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	OWNTYPE	10	Text		Type of Trail Owner	CITY, COUNTY, STATE, FEDERAL, NON PROFIT, FOR PROFIT, PRIVATE, REGIONAL, OTHER
	OTHOWNTYPE	150	Text		If OTHER is chosen for OWNTYPE, please describe what the OWNER TYPE is.	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	MANAGER	75	Text		Trail Manager, this can be the same or different than the OWNER	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	ADA_ACCESS	3	Text		Is the trail handicap assessable?	YES/NO
	LANDTYPE	7	Text		Land Access Type	PRIVATE, PUBLIC
	SURFACE	10	Text		Trail Surface	ASPHALT, CONCRETE, GRAVEL, NATURAL, OTHER.
	OTHSURFACE	150	Text		If OTHER is chosen for SURFACE, please describe what the SURFACE is.	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	HIKING	3	Text		Is Hiking allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	BIKING	3	Text		Are Bikes allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	HORSE	3	Text		Are Horses allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	MOTORCYCLE	3	Text		Are Motorcycles allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	ATV	3	Text		Are ATVs allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	WATER_TRL	3	Text		Is it a Water Trail?	YES/NO
	DESCRIPTN	254	Text		Description of Trail	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	RATING	10	Text		Trail Rating	EASY, MODERATE, STRENUOUS
	SCHEDULE	75	Text		Schedule	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAIL_MILE		Double		Trail Segment Mileage	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	FEE	3	Text		Is there a fee for trail usage?	YES/NO
	DOGS	3	Text		Are Dogs allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	HYPERLINK	254	Text		Hyperlink to website, please include full URL path	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAILHD_ID	75	Text		Internal Trailhead ID for maintaining agency	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	PUBLIC_NAME	150	Text		Public land name (i.e. Name of forest, park, WMA, recreation area)	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	MAINTENANC	4	Text		Trail maintenance	GOOD, FAIR, POOR
	MA_ID		Double		Managed Area ID	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	STATUS	40	Text		Status of trail	POTENTIAL, INCOMPLETE, ARCHIVED, NEED_UPDATE, CORRECT
	TRAIL_CONFIG	40	Text		The general configuration (System Layout) of the trail, whether it is a linear trail or a loop or loop segment	LINEAR, LOOP
	BLAZE	40	Text		The color/symbol that the trail is blazed or marked in.	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
Trailheads-Main access to the trail						
	NAME	75	Text		Name of Trailhead.	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAIL_NAME	150	Text		Name of the Trail. If the trail has more than 1 name please list both names (i.e. Sheltowee Trace and Rough Trail)	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAILHD_ID	75	Text		Internal Trailhead ID for maintaining agency	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	PHOTOLINK	250	Text		Hyperlink to Trailhead photo, please include full URL path	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	HIKING	3	Text		Is Hiking allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	BIKING	3	Text		Are Bikes allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	HORSE	3	Text		Are Horses allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	MOTORCYCLE	3	Text		Are Motorcycles allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	ATV	3	Text		Are ATVs allowed on the trail?	YES/NO
	WATER_TRL	3	Text		Is it a Water Trail?	YES/NO
	PARKING	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have parking?	YES/NO
	RESTROOMS	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have restrooms?	YES/NO
	RR_ADA	3	Text		Are the restrooms ADA accessible?	YES/NO
	STRUCTURE	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have a structure?	YES/NO
	TRASH_CAN	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have trash receptacles?	YES/NO
	SHELTER	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have a shelter?	YES/NO
	KIOSK	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have a kiosk?	YES/NO
	PICNIC	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have a picnic area?	YES/NO
	VENDING	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have vending machines?	YES/NO
	SIGNAGE	3	Text		Does the Trailhead have signage	YES/NO
DESCRIPTION	254	Text		Description	NO DOMAIN/RANGE	
Trail Junctions-junctions where 2 or more trails come together						
	NAME	75	Text		Name of Trailhead	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAIL_NAME	150	Text		Name of the Trail. If the trail has more than 1 name please list both names (i.e. Sheltowee Trace and Rough Trail)	NO DOMAIN/RANGE

GIS Feature Class Name	Item Names	Item Width	Item Type	# of Decimals	Description - All Entries must be in uppercase	Domain/Valid Range
	PHOTOLINK	254	Text		Hyperlink to Trail junction photo, please include full URL path	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	SIGNAGE	3	Text		Does the Trail junction have signage?	YES/NO
	DESCRIPTN	254	Text		Description	NO DOMAIN/RANGE

GIS Feature Class Name	Item Names	Item Width	Item Type	# of Decimals	Description - All Entries must be in uppercase	Domain/Valid Range
Trail_Structures						
	NAME	75	Text		Name of Structure	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAIL_NAME	150	Text		Name of the Trail. If the trail has more than 1 name please list both names (i.e. Sheltowee	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TYPE	75	Text		Type of Structure	BENCH, BRIDGE, LADDER, PICNIC SHELTER, PRIVY, RAILINGS, SHELTER, STAIRS, OTHER
	OTHTYPE	150	Text		If OTHER is chosen for TYPE, please describe what the structure TYPE is.	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	PHOTOLINK	254	Text		Hyperlink to Shelter photo, please include full URL path	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	DESCRIPTN	254	Text		Description	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
POI (Point of Interest)						
	NAME	75	Text		Name of Point of Interest	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAIL_NAME	150	Text		Name of the Trail. If the trail has more than 1 name please list both names (i.e. Sheltowee	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TYPE	75	Text		Trace and Rough Trail) Type of Point of Interest	CULTURAL FEATURES, HISTORICAL FEATURES, NATURAL FEATURES, OVERLOOK, ROCK CLIMBING, WAYSIDE EXHIBIT, WILDLIFE VIEWING AREA, OTHER
	OTHTYPE	150	Text		If OTHER is chosen for TYPE, please describe what the point of interest TYPE is.	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	PHOTOLINK	254	Text		Hyperlink to Point of Interest photo, please include full URL path	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	DESCRIPTN	254	Text		Description	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
Stables						
	NAME	75	Text		Name of Stable	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	TRAIL_NAME	150	Text		Name of the Trail. If the trail has more than 1 name please list both names (i.e. Sheltowee	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
					Trace and Rough Trail)	
	WATER	3	Text		Is Potable Water available?	YES/NO
	HAY	3	Text		Is Hay available?	YES/NO
	RESTROOMS	3	Text		Are restrooms available?	YES/NO
	HORSE_RENT	3	Text		Are there Horse rentals?	YES/NO
	RR_ADA	3	Text		Are the restrooms ADA accessible?	YES/NO
	SCHEDULE	75	Text		Schedule	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	PHOTOLINK	254	Text		Hyperlink to Stable photo, please include full URL path	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	DESCRIPTN	254	Text		Description	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
Metadata Items (On all feature classes)						
	AGENCY	75	Text		Agency where update was made	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	CONTACT	75	Text		Person who made the update	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	XY_SOURCE	75	Text		Source of location data	GPS, AERIAL IMAGERY, TOPO MAP, ETC...
	XY_ISSUES	254	Text		Any issues with accuracy of location	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	ATT_SOURCE	75	Text		Source of attribute	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	ATT_ISSUES	254	Text		Any issues with accuracy of attribute	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	COMMENTS	254	Text		Any comments	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	MODIFYDATE	8	Date		Date feature was modified	NO DOMAIN/RANGE
	CREATEDATE	8	Date		Date feature was first created	NO DOMAIN/RANGE



Total Square Miles: 1,956

