



Kentucky Geographic Information Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda

October 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. GIAC Membership Update – *Carney*
 - D. New DGI Staff – *Shearer*
 - E. US Army Corp of Engineers Campground and RV Park Data Request – *Shearer*
 - F. Subcommittee Reports
 - 1. KyFromAbove Technical Advisory Subcommittee – *NTR*
 - 2. GeoAI Technical Advisory Subcommittee – *Biddle*
 - 3. Public Buildings & School Safety Mapping Layer Specifications Subcommittee – *Graham*
 - G. Next Generation 911 Status Report – *Harding*
 - H. GIS Data Sharing Report
 - 1. Importance of Collaboration and Data Sharing
 - 2. Kentucky Trail Data submitted to USGS – *Graham*
 - 3. PVA Parcel Data – Availability & Update Status – *Gordon*
 - I. KyFromAbove Program Report – *Anness*
 - 1. Imagery Program Update
 - 2. LiDAR Program Update
 - J. Kentucky Landcover Change Explorer – *Shearer*
 - K. KAMP Announcements – *Biddle*
 - L. New Business – *Chair*
- III. Adjournment

Geographic Information Advisory Council (GIAC)

Minutes – July 15, 2026

Virtual meeting via *Microsoft Teams*

Members Attending:

1. DJ Biddle (*Kentucky Association of Mapping Professionals*)
 2. Randy Bridges (*Legislative Research Commission*)
 3. Shelly Clark (*Kentucky Office of Homeland Security*)
 4. Doug Curl (*Kentucky Geological Survey*)
 5. Robert Hackworth (*Kentucky Department of Education*)
 6. David Gordon (*Office of Property Valuation*)
 7. Bobby Hall (*Kentucky Association of Counties*)
 8. Charles Higginbotham (*Tourism, Arts, and Heritage Cabinet*)
 9. Will Holmes (*Kentucky Transportation Cabinet*)
 10. Kevin Jones for Haldane Lamberton (*Department of Military Affairs*)
 11. Roderick Jones (*Council on Postsecondary Education*)
 12. Jeffrey Kelley (*Kentucky Property Valuation Administrators Association*)
 13. Whitley Keltner (*Kentucky League of Cities*)
 14. Meghan Sandfoss (*Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association*)
 15. Ben Shinabery (*Kentucky Association of Professional Surveyors*)
 16. Alex Tietz (*Energy and Environment Cabinet*)
 17. Kari Welch (*Finance and Administration Cabinet*)
 18. Ashiq Zaman (*Economic Development Cabinet*)
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I. Call to Order/Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Kari Welch on behalf of Chairperson Jim Barnhart.

II. Council Business

A. Roll Call

Quorum was confirmed by Katie Carney with 18 members or their designees in attendance.

B. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the April 15, 2026, meeting were previously provided to members for their review. Motion entered by Jeff Kelley to accept minutes as written and distributed, motion seconded by Will Holmes, none opposed, minutes adopted.

C. GIAC Membership Update

Mr. Anness announced that Judge Executive Bobby Hall, representing KACo, is a new member on GIAC.

Mr. Anness thanked Jeff Kelley for his service on GIAC and invited him to continue attending future meetings and being involved in the GIS community. Mr. Kelley expressed his gratitude for being a member of GIAC and assured the

council that whomever his replacement is will do a wonderful job representative the property valuation administrators.

D. Deprecation of Avenza Maps

Mr. Anness stated that approximately four or five years ago, the Division of Geographic Information announced that KyTopo maps were available on the Avenza platform. Since then, Blue Marble has acquired Avenza Maps and the new ownership is cancelling the free subscription option. The main reason the maps were placed on that platform was to have topo and trail maps available on a phone or tablet without having to be online. All current maps will remain on the platform, but no updates will be made to them nor any new maps uploaded. However, DGI anticipates that within 9 to 18 months, the current maps will disappear from the Avenza platform.

Mr. Anness announced that DGI has learned that ArcGIS Field Maps might be able to use the new KyTopo Geospatial PDF maps with a free login. Regardless, DGI will keep members updated as to the topo and field map accessibility.

E. Orphaned Agency Layers

Mr. Anness informed members that since around 2024, the DGI team has been working to migrate the layers in the enterprise database to ArcGIS online. During this process, staff have identified a couple dozen layers from various agencies that have fallen off the radar and are not receiving regular updates from those agencies.

DGI staff will reach out to these state agencies individually to discuss the importance of these layers and to determine the party responsible. From there, DGI staff will work with the agency to get back on track with future updates.

Mr. Anness and DGI staff recognize that there are things that do not often change; however, there is a need to verify that all information is accurate and current.

F. Milestone: Statewide Voting Districts Layer Completed

Mr. Anness announced that Kentucky now has digitally mapped statewide voting precincts. He added that very few states have this.

A GIAC subcommittee recommended statutory changes that were passed by the General Assembly during the 2024 Regular Session. From those changes, the State Board of Elections hired a GIS staffer that has worked with all county clerks to create this digital mapping program.

Mr. Anness recognized Meg Henderson and she stated that the next phase of the project is to add magisterial districts. Eventually, the result of the project will be to have a mapping system in which anything that can be placed upon a ballot is within the system.

Mr. Anness announced that Richard House, State Board of Elections, will be retiring at the end of July. Mr. Anness thanked Mr. House for his support over the years and wished him well in retirement.

Mr. Holmes asked if the program and data would be shared publicly. Mr. Anness stated that yes, it is now in the enterprise database and on ArcGIS Online, and he encourages statewide awareness that this information is now available.

The County Clerk Web Mapping Application can be accessed [here](#).

G. Subcommittee Reports

1. KyFromAbove Technical Advisory Subcommittee

Mr. Anness announced that the subcommittee's focus has been updating the LiDAR specifications in accordance with USGS. He stated that it is an extremely technical document and the subcommittee has relied on internal and external subject matter experts. LiDAR specifications must align with the USGS specifications to request funding from USGS. He stated that Kentucky's specifications surpass the USGS guidelines.

After highlighting a few errors and changes that the subcommittee found and has made to the guidelines, Mr. Anness thanked the subcommittee for their time and effort on the project. The subcommittee recommends adoption of the updated specifications by the full Geographic Information Advisory Council.

Mr. Horn provided his thanks to Boyd Shearer, Demetrio Zourarakis, and everyone that has reviewed the document.

H. Consideration of Kentucky LiDAR Specifications Updates

Chairwoman Welch asked for a motion to adopt the KyFromAbove Technical Advisory Subcommittee's updated LiDAR specifications document. Motion entered by David Gordon to accept the document, motion seconded by Will Holmes, none opposed, and the motion passed by voice vote.

Chairwoman Welch extended her thanks to those that worked on the updated document. Mr. Anness added that he appreciates all that read the entire document.

I. Next Generation 911 Status Report

Mr. Harding announced that migrations are continuing at a good pace and there are now 25 PSAPs that serve 29 counties live on NextGen911. This is just shy of 1 million residents that are residing within counties that are on NG911.

Mr. Harding stated that there is a provider pulling out of Kentucky and Shelly Clark, administrator, Kentucky 911 Services Board, Kentucky Office of Homeland Security is looking at how the upcoming PSAPs are going to appear on the new provider.

Mr. Anness commented that there is a lot of overlap between NG911 and State Board of Elections. He added that he has been looking at the statistics and there have been 29 million requests made for the data service. This is a major testament to the value provided.

J. GIS Data Sharing Report

PVA Parcel Data – Availability and Update Status

Mr. Gordon stated that this is a good time of year to provide an update of the parcel layers as the 2026 assessments are certified. He announced that 109 counties now have provided parcel data. His office will continue to work with remaining counties on receiving parcel data.

K. KyFromAbove Program Report

1. Imagery Program Update

Mr. Anness informed the members that some maps were included in the handout that relate to acquisitions. He announced that not much has changed within the past three months. The only thing that might change might be the interface between the 2028 and 2029 acquisition footprints.

Mr. Anness added that by having a three-year cycle will align with larger GIS installations and the ability to save more by doing it at the same time.

2. LiDAR Program Update

Mr. Anness directed members to a map within the packet. The ability to have all counties coded to the blue shade within 2027, federal funding must be received. Counties with the oldest data are updated first.

Mr. Anness thanked Kim Ezell and the Hopkins County Judge Executive for their assistance with receiving local government matching funds. They will be working on behalf of all the counties currently shaded blue to request and help process the matching funds.

The acquisition cost is \$1.3 million and DGI is waiting to hear from USGS as to when the agency's funding opportunity opens and then Kentucky will apply for funds.

L. Finance State Risk Mapping Demonstration

Mr. Anness informed members that since his transition to DGI in 2004, the division has received multiple requests for a map of all state-owned properties. Mr. Anness displayed a state risk map that shows all state insured properties. This data has been collected for years and stored within state risk databases.

Mr. Anness announced that an agreement between State Risk and DGI has been reached and State Risk will begin sharing the data with regular updates. Mr. Anness explained that some of the data is sensitive and will not be shared

publicly. However, some information will be released upon request with stipulations.

DGI has also been working with State Risk to allow them to easily access the aerial photography and they are able to look at the oblique views. DGI has also embedded a Google Street View link. DGI has also provided an avenue for State Risk to learn how many years of imagery are available for a particular area.

M. KAMP Announcements

Mr. Biddle reminded members that the annual state conference is in September in Lexington and there are more details on the [conference website](#). Early bird registration is available the end of August.

Mr. Biddle announced that 140 attendees were present during the State of the State, which might have been the largest size to date. There were 34 survey responses with valuable feedback, mainly in providing access to presentation materials. KAMP is working on some upgrades to the way events are ran and this ability should be incorporated in future events. The next State of the State is scheduled for May 12, 2027, and will again be held at the KY Transportation Cabinet in Frankfort.

Mr. Biddle stated that KAMP is becoming more diligent in scheduling future events. The 2027 annual state conference will be held in Louisville and details presented during the 2026 conference.

Mr. Anness stated that in the past few years there seems to be a lesser attendance of state employees at the annual conference. He added that the State of the State is great for state employees to attend since it is in Frankfort. He encourages all state and local entities to attend the KAMP conference and workshops.

Ms. Henderson commented that attending these conferences and events has made it very beneficial for the State Board of Elections and their ability to receive precinct layers.

Mr. Holmes added that the return of investment is major for his Transportation Cabinet employees to attend KAMP conferences. As a manager, he views it as an investment and opportunity for their staff to grow and produce better work.

N. New Business

Chairwoman Welch opened the floor for any new business.

Mr. Holmes mentioned there are GIS projection detail issues with CAD. That the CAD side is wanting to move to the new projections. Mr. Anness responded that until the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) says it is a go for states to follow suite, it is currently a no go. All that can happen in the meantime is for individuals to become prepared to get the information ready, but we cannot do anything until it

is mandated.

Mr. Shinabery stated that he spoke with the National Geographic Survey people in Washington DC in April and the organization is working to have it adopted this year. However, the organization lost about 60 percent of its workforce with the administration. He noted that the biggest issue for Kentucky specifically is that the new datums is in international feed. And working units that are in the program might be difficult to correlate. The lower distortions are even more subtle. Ms. Henderson commented that those offsets on corporate boundaries can impact a ballot face. Mr. Shinaberry stated that there is a new NGS coordinator and he will provide the contact information to Mr. Anness.

III. Adjournment

Chairwoman Welch thanked everyone for their participation and contributions. She added that it strengthens our GIS efforts across the Commonwealth. Chairwoman Welch made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Holmes seconded the motion and without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

KyFromAbove

3-inch Aerial Photography Collection 3-Year Scenario

Acquisition Areas

By Year



