

Kansas is preparing a new Statewide GIS Strategic Plan.

As a valued GIS stakeholder, your input is **crucial!**

What is working? What could be done better?

The Kansas Geographic Information Systems Policy Board invites you to take part in the shaping of a new Strategic Plan for Kansas GIS Initiatives.

The intent of this plan is to evaluate Kansas' statewide GIS environment and establish strategies that will eliminate data gaps, enhance services, and improve collaboration across the entire state.

As a decision maker or practitioner, your insights are valuable, and your thoughts on the future direction of GIS in Kansas are of great interest to us. Please come to one of the two **stakeholder information gathering sessions** this summer to learn about the process and to share your ideas for advancing the state's GIS program.

Each session will last for about four hours. The sessions will be facilitated by professional consultants from the firm: Applied Geographics, Inc., of Boston Massachusetts, with assistance from members of the Kansas GIS Policy Board's Technical Advisory Committee.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Wednesday, July 11th, 2007*

Curtis State Office Building, Room 530

1000 SW Jackson Street, Topeka KS

8:30-12:30

To RSVP to the meeting, or for more information, please contact Ivan Weichert, (785) 296-0257, ivan.weichert@da.ks.gov, at the Kansas Information Technology Office.

***Important Note:** If you can't attend this session, this will not be your only chance to participate. We are planning on conducting a **second session** in Salina in September and we will notify you of details via a separate invitation later in the summer. If you are unable to attend either session but wish to participate in this process, we will be distributing an email survey request during July and August, or please send your comments and suggestions to Mr. Weichert.

This project is funded by a grant that is part of the Fifty States Initiative being implemented by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC).

Planning Session Agenda:

1. Overview and background
 - a. Description of the current planning project
 - b. Overview of GIS in Kansas today
 - c. 50 States Initiative, and support for statewide strategic and business planning
 - d. Discussion of GIS program gaps in Kansas
2. Interactive discussion and/or breakout sessions by industry/government sector
 - a. Identification of greatest needs
 - b. Prioritization among identified needs

Questions for Discussion:

- What are the strengths and weaknesses of existing statewide GIS efforts in Kansas?
- Are you able to get everything you need from Kansas' Data Access and Support Center?
- Are there any constraints (technical or otherwise) that prevent you from collaborating with the Kansas GIS Data Access and Support Center?
- Are there any particularly important data sets that are missing?
- Are there any applications that the state could / should provide that would make your job easier?
- What would be the most important suggestion you would make for improving GIS coordination in Kansas?
- Is it important for Kansas to participate in Federal initiatives such as the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)?
- What data sets (parcels, orthos, elevation, etc) are you currently maintaining and developing at a local level?
- Would you be interested in participating in a statewide, coordinated effort to develop these data sets?
- What should the state's role be in developing data (coordination, establishing standards, providing funding, etc.)?
- Would you be willing to share your data for inclusion in the statewide GIS clearinghouse (e.g. a county contributing parcel data coverage)?
- Does your organization have a working procedure for offsite backup of your GIS and general IT data?



This project is funded by a grant that is part of the Fifty States Initiative being implemented by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) and the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC).