

# ARKANSAS GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS OFFICE

FY 2023 – FY 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

MISSION: PROMOTING EFFICIENT DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE, AND DISTRIBUTION OF ARKANSAS' GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION RESOURCES.

VISION: THE ARKANSAS GIS OFFICE PROVIDES EFFICIENT AND RELIABLE ACCESS TO THE STATE'S GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR A BROAD RANGE OF STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING PUBLIC SECTOR AS WELL AS PRIVATE SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS AND ACADEMIA. THESE VITAL RESOURCES INCLUDE GIS DATA, SURVEY PLATS, AND AERIAL IMAGERY FOR THE STATE.

CORE VALUES: COORDINATION, LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION, INNOVATION

Goal 1 Summary: Completion of Statewide Geospatial Framework Data Layers Provided to Arkansas' Citizens Efficiently via the Agency's Online Clearinghouse

**Measurable Objective 1:** Decrease our time-to-market for the data layers we collect and distribute.

Strategy 1:

*Promote the adoption and use of the Next Generation 911 Data Validation tools procured by the Arkansas 911 Board to local addressing authorities to increase time to market for address and road centerline data.*

**Measurable Objective 2:** Foster and coordinate the maintenance and application of address point data for all 75 counties in Arkansas.

Strategy 1:

*Provide direct support and outreach to local addressing authorities in the form of GIS technical support, project guidance, and recommendations of best practices for maintaining their geospatial data.*

Strategy 2:

*Research and seek out funding sources external to the agency's budget that will encourage data development efforts in local jurisdictions by providing supplementary financial resources. These external funding sources can, from time to time, be leveraged through other programs with similar objectives such as public safety.*

Strategy 3:

*Promote the adoption and use of the Next Generation 911 Data Validation tools procured by the Arkansas 911 Board to local addressing authorities to increase time to market for address and road centerline data. Leverage this resource to aggregate data from the local authorities and publish to the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure (ASDI).*

**Measurable Objective 3: Foster and coordinate the completion and distribution of geospatial tax parcel data for all 75 counties in Arkansas.**

*At the time of drafting this strategic plan, Fulton County is the remaining County which has not completed tax parcel polygon conversion to digital parcel data.*

Strategy 1:

*Seek the County's participation and coordinate necessary funding to complete Fulton County conversion through the parcel mapping grant program administered by the Office.*

Strategy 2:

*Promote the use of the state's published Cadastral Mapping Standard to better meet the current needs of the various stakeholders using the dataset.*

Strategy 3:

*Streamline the ingestion and aggregation processes used to update the statewide cadastral dataset maintained in the Arkansas Spatial Data Infrastructure (ASDI) by leveraging the technological capabilities of the ASDI as well as those of the local stakeholders and consultants providing services to them.*

Strategy 4:

*Continue proactive outreach to County Assessors to promote the need for digital parcel map maintenance and improvement in the quality and accuracy.*

Strategy 5:

*Proactively coordinate with County Assessor Offices to conduct digital parcel quality control assessments of the data, with a focus on the attribute content such as tax code, e.g., school district and municipal assignments; and geometry such as improving the variance between the taxable area value and mapped value.*

**Measurable Objective 4:** Continue to support statewide 911 efficiency activities with a particular focus on the GIS data layers that have been deemed essential for Next Generation 911 (NG911) by the National Emergency Number Association (NENA).

Strategy 1:

*Provide each public safety answering point (PSAP) with a copy of the state’s 2023 digital orthoimagery that is appropriate for their jurisdiction.*

Strategy 2:

*Interface with and provide support to local data stewards to improve the statewide quality and comprehensiveness of three GIS data layers that have been identified as “REQUIRED” in the NENA Standard for NG911 GIS Data Model publication. Those layers are road centerlines, PSAP boundaries, and emergency service boundaries.*

Strategy 3:

*Interface with and provide support to local data stewards to improve the statewide quality and comprehensiveness of the GIS data layers that have been identified as “STRONGLY RECOMMENDED” in the NENA Standard for NG911 GIS Data Model publication. These layers include, but are not limited to, structure address points and municipal boundaries.*

Goal 2 Summary: Cultivate Partnerships with Local and State Government Entities and the U.S. Census Bureau to Improve Municipal Boundary Data for the State

**Measurable Objective 1:** Provide accurate and current geospatial municipal boundary data to the U.S. Census Bureau in order to improve the federal data used to administer the 2030 Census.

Strategy 1:

*Annually transmit statewide municipal boundary to the U.S Census Bureau in accordance with the Bureau's established Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) timeframes and facilitate the data's incorporation into their databases.*

**Measurable Objective 2:** Participate in outreach to local government stakeholders involved in the annexation process.

Strategy 1:

*Coordinate with local elected officials including mayors, county clerks, etc. via direct personal communication and participation at applicable meetings to ensure annexations processes established in statute are understood and followed.*

Strategy 2:

*Provide digital mapping and legal description support to local government entities in accordance with Act 914 of the 90<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (A.C.A. § 14-38-116).*

**Measurable Objective 3:** Coordinate with the Arkansas Secretary of State's Office for the efficient management of annexation documents and information.

Strategy 1:

*Maintain ongoing communication with the Arkansas Secretary of State's Office to ensure applicable annexation records and data are current and shared in a timely, efficient, and mutually beneficial manner.*

Goal 3 Summary: The Statewide Physical Address Point Data Set Becomes the Primary and Indispensable Address Validation Resource for State Government

**Measurable Objective 1:** Promote the adoption and use of the physical address point data across departments and divisions within State Government.

Strategy 1:

*Seek opportunities to engage with divisions via meetings and forums such as the State's Data and Transparency Panel, and the State Agency GIS users meeting.*

Strategy 2:

*Continue participation in the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Address Database program.*

**Goal 4 Summary: Improve the Comprehensiveness and Currentness of Data Constituting the Basis of Various Forms of Election Districts in Order To Provide the Foundation for Efficient Redistricting Processes**

**Measurable Objective 1:** The agency will pay particular attention to and increase its focus on the spatial data that forms the basis of election district information in the time leading up to the 2030 Census. This information will become a critical element of redistricting work that will commence again in 2031.

Strategy 1:

*Coordinate with local elected officials including county clerks and school boards via direct personal communication and participation at applicable meetings to ensure school board zone boundaries are submitted to the agency in accordance with Arkansas Code § 6-13-1417(b)(3)(C).*

Strategy 2:

*Coordinate with local elected officials, particularly county clerks, via direct personal communication and participation at applicable meetings to ensure any altered or new election precinct boundaries are submitted to the agency in accordance with Arkansas Code § 7-5-101.*

Strategy 3:

*Conduct audits and/or reviews of school districts and counties wherein any changes may have occurred since redistricting in 2021.*

**Goal 5 Summary: Grow the Division of Land Survey as an Invaluable and Efficient Resource to Professional Surveyors and Property Owners, and Be the National Leader for Archival, Preservation and Restoration of the Public Land Survey System in Arkansas**

**Measurable Objective 1:** Expand the scope of the certified corner program to include public land survey system (PLSS) corner records from other state and federal resources.

Strategy 1:

*Engage with the Survey program of the Arkansas Department of Transportation to acquire or incorporate PLSS corners records into the corner database.*

Strategy 2:

*Engage with the Survey programs of federal agencies such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, or others to acquire or incorporate PLSS corner records into the corner database.*

**Measurable Objective 2:** Expand the use of public land survey system (PLSS) corner records maintained by the Division and the locatability of the actual corners referenced by these records.

Strategy 1:

*Enhance the PLSS corner database by consistently incorporating latitude and longitude coordinates into the records. This allows not only for better on-site location but for inclusion of the corners into surveying and GIS digital mapping applications.*

**Measurable Objective 2:** Expand the plat database to include other forms of land survey plats.

Strategy 1:

*Engage with County and Circuit Clerks on the feasibility of access to county records of subdivision plats.*

#### Appendix: Agency Profile and Organizational Chart

- Key stakeholders
- Primary services
- Profile of the workforce
- Strategic challenges and advantages
- Other relevant information

#### Additional Plan Information:

Much of this plan corresponds to the Arkansas GIS Board's 2014 review of the state's Geospatial Strategic Business Plan adopted by the Board in March 2010. Within the review document, several objectives were laid out for the agency to achieve over the five years subsequent to the Board's review. The [2010 Geospatial Strategic Business Plan](#) and the [2014 Strategic Plan Review](#) can be accessed via the links here.

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Department of Transformation and Shared Services  
 Geographic Information Systems Office  
 Organizational Chart Effective June 14, 2023

