

December 2021

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December 2021 Newsletter

Dear NYS GIS Association Member,

Here are a few items of news as we close out the year:

- NYC Council Adds Geospatial Provisions
- Regional Coordination Committee Activities
- Call for Committee Participation
- Upcoming Opportunities & Events

With sincere best wishes for 2022,
The NYS GIS Association Communications Committee



NYC Council Adds Geospatial Provisions

The New York City Council passed Local Law No.2158-A, which assures continued GIS implementation, development, and expansion for many years to come. The legislation passed unanimously, 51 - 0, and amends the New York City Charter, taking effect early in 2022.

The legislation was introduced by the Council's IT Committee Chair, Robert Holden. New York government is one of the first local governments in the U.S. to have the following provisions written into its Charter.

- the appointment of a CGIO in the City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DOITT)
- the formation of a Steering Committee comprised of agency GIS managers to enable coordination, collaboration, and data sharing

The [GISMO](#) Board of Directors played a critical role in the passage of this charter amendment, advocating for it over the past four years. They are thrilled to have received New York City Council recognition for the critical contributions that geospatial technology makes to the City.



GISMO leaders Alan Leidner and Wendy Dorf reached out to elected officials, notably Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Member Stephen Levin, and Council Member Levin's Legislative Director, Elizabeth Adams, and Council Member Robert Holden. All were instrumental in the passage of the legislation. Council Member Levin and Legislative Director Adams worked on the language of the bill with Council attorneys. Jack Eichenbaum, GISMO's founder, introduced GISMO members to Council Member Holden, who chairs the Council's IT Committee. Council Member Holden shepherded the legislation through his committee and onto the floor of the Council.

For more information on this exciting development, visit the legislation site: <https://legistar.council.nyc.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4699476&GUID=969B997E-2794-4AA2-942B-0D9891F1B5C8&Options=&Search=>



Regional Coordination Committee Activities

The [Regional Coordination Committee](#) works to improve collaboration, cooperation, and mutual support between the NYS GIS Association and NYS Regional GIS Groups. The Committee meets monthly. Below are a few highlights from some of their recent meetings.

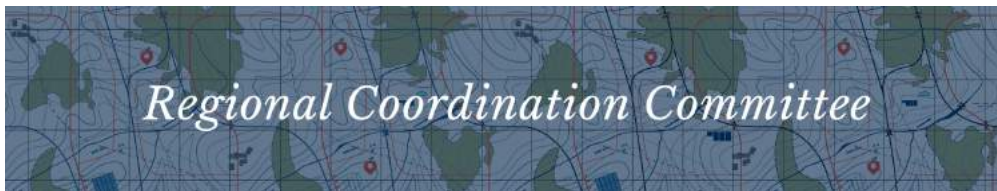


- The Committee has been working very hard over the last 18 months to improve NYS and local government response to the pandemic with a GIS-centered approach. See, for example, the COVID-19 Resources page at <https://www.nysgis.net/covid-19/>.

Groups have shared examples from their respective regions where this is a problem.

- Frank Winters, the NYS GIO, updated the Committee on the GIS Program Office's work with the U.S. Census Bureau to improve the quality of the Census geography based on local data.
- The Committee has discussed leveraging examples of the misalignment of Census geography and local data to develop a State Health Data Service.
- The Committee sees the misalignment of local frameworks and Census geography as being a national problem that has far-reaching implications such as the [CDC/ATSDR Social Vulnerability Index](#) and the location of COVID cases.

To learn more about what the Committee has been working on, please visit their web page at <https://www.nysgis.net/committees/regcoord/> and click on the links for their meeting minutes.



Call for Committee Participation

As we usher in the new year, consider how you might contribute to the New York State GIS Association. **Many of our committees are seeking members.** Committees play a critical role in furthering the [mission](#) of the Association.

If you are missing the networking component of in-person meetings and conferences, committee membership helps fill that void. As COVID continues to affect how we work and connect with one another, committee work goes on. Committees have always met virtually and connected by email. Professional contacts and friendships develop within committees as the members seek to carry out their goals.



Committees are no less active in the face of COVID. Indeed, they can be a

at <https://www.nysgis.net/committees/> to see if there is a committee that is right for you. Some members volunteer on several committees.

Remember, you are not only helping others through your participation, you are also [contributing to the profession, which counts toward your GISP](#).

Upcoming Opportunities & Events

- **January Edition of Esri's Education Chat Session: What's New with Spatial Statistics Tools in ArcGIS Pro** | 4 January 2022 | Noon (ET) | [Registration](#)
- **NEARC's New Year Mappy Hour** | 6 January 2022 | 7 - 8:30 p.m. | [Registration Form](#)
- **AGO Competition for U.S. Middle & High School Students** | Submissions from NYS schools will be due in the early Spring of 2022 | Stay tuned for more details.
- **2022 Education Summit at Esri UC** | 9 - 11 July 2022 in San Diego | [Details & Registration](#)
- **Esri User Conference** | 11 - 15 July 2022 in San Diego | [Details & Registration](#)



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