

Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council Imagery Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: 06/24/2026

Meeting Time: 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Attendees:

Tanya Mayer (Met Council), Kory Thurnau (MnGeo), Christy Christensen (McLeod Co.), Jennifer Murphy (DNR), Joe Sapletal (Dakota Co.), Quentin Ikuta (ILTF), Christian Sovak (DOT); Ryan Bonney (SMSC)

1. Meetings

- [Committee's internal SharePoint site](#) will be used to maintain agendas, minutes, and working documents.
- A public Committee page (for open meeting law) is forthcoming.
- Meeting cadence: Currently scheduled 4th Wednesday, 2:00–3:00 PM; may be revisited if conflicts arise.
- **Calendar/ownership change**: Tanya will cancel the current recurring invite; Kory will issue a new series and serve as the stable coordinator for minutes/transcripts

2. Image Service Sustainability Subcommittee

- Background: The legacy workgroup has been dormant; interest exists in resurrecting it and housing it as a subcommittee of this Committee.
- **Scope/ fit**: The subcommittee would advise on WMS sustainability (retirements, priority datasets, service strategy) and coordinate with archiving efforts.
- **Meeting frequency**: Likely annual, potentially folded into a regular Committee session, focused on updating the [sustainability plan](#) and future statewide serving strategy.
- **Archiving questions**: Ensure clarity on where retired imagery lives (true archival vs. service retirement) and how historic imagery is cataloged/maintained.
 - Include and coordinate with Ryan Mattke and GAC Archiving Committee
- **Participation**: Joe Sapletal volunteered to help (brings history from the original design); Kory Thurnau; confirm interest and include:
 - Geoff Bitner (DOT)
 - Ryan Mattke (UMN)
 - Brent Lund (MnGeo)

3. [Review Workplan](#) (Generally)

- Priority: Establish a statewide imagery program optimizing acquisition, QA, documentation, distribution, and archiving.
 - Year 1: Develop statewide imagery needs assessment and an RFP (in cooperation with MNIT/MnGeo); support the assessment process.
 - Year 2: Develop program recommendations post-assessment; re-stand imagery stewardship via the subcommittee.

4. Discuss Item 1 of Workplan (Specifically)

- **Purpose:** Provide decisionmakers with needs and ROI narratives to substantiate long-term funding for imagery as a foundational SDI dataset.
 - Minnesota's recent Geospatial Maturity Assessment indicates low imagery scores (e.g., leaf-on ≈ B; leaf-off ≈ D+)
 - formalizing a statewide program would improve standing and, more importantly, address business needs.
 - **(Full GMA report not yet public; presentation planned for September GAC Meeting.)**
- Discussed Washington State's ROI report (prepared by Sanborn).
 - [WA Report](#)
 - [AI Summary of Report](#)
 - [WA RFP](#)
 - [AI Summary of RFP](#)
- MnGeo contacted Sanborn for a Minnesota proposal modeled after WA.
 - Cost ballpark: Sanborn's two-phase estimate with options is approximately \$200K;
 - Potential cost-sharing interest from other state agencies identified
- Peer example also mentioned: [Michigan's statewide program](#) (zones, cycles, "buy-up" options, blended vendors including Sanborn/Nearmap) cited as a useful model to study benefits and program mechanics.
 - MI's coordinator is willing to speak with the committee at a future meeting

Decisions

- Proceed with reviving the Imagery Service Sustainability effort as a subcommittee under this Committee; chairing/lead to be determined.
- Consolidate prerequisites before drafting the RFP: obtain Washington's report, Michigan program notes, and available GMA materials to inform scope and structure. **(see links above)**
- Administrative: Tanya will cancel the current recurring meetings; Kory will send a replacement series and maintain minutes/transcripts.

Action Items

Kory — Revisit the [sustainability plan](#); highlight sections to review; compile reference materials (Washington ROI, Michigan notes, any available GMA content) and distribute with minutes ahead of next meeting.

Tanya — Cancel current recurring invite; coordinate with Kory on the new meeting series.

All members — Review distributed materials:

- [Imagery Sustainability Plan](#)
- [WA Report](#)
 - [AI Summary of Report](#)
- [WA RFP](#)
 - [AI Summary of RFP](#)
- [Michigan's statewide program](#)

Next Meeting

July 22, 2026 @ 2p.m.

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