

Ohio Department of Administrative Services
Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program (OGRIP) Council
Sunset Review Committee
April 26, 2016

Good afternoon Chairman Jordan and members of the Sunset Review Committee. My name is Stu Davis, and I am the Assistant Director of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and the State Chief Information Officer.

I am pleased to appear before you today to testify in support of the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program (OGRIP) Council. It is through the OGRIP Council's efforts the State of Ohio has established partnerships to develop several statewide geospatial data projects that reduce redundant data collection among agencies, improve the accuracy and currency of the data, and provide access to over 30TB of authoritative spatial data assets developed by state and local government. These Council initiatives support the efforts of GIS professionals at all levels of government to provide accurate and timely analysis of information to support their respective missions, from tax collection and distribution to public safety and emergency response.

By leveraging Federal, State and local resources OGRIP has effectively reduced redundant data development activities with the creation of statewide data development programs that leverage the economy of scale to reduce costs, improved the quality and accuracy of Ohio's spatial data, and expanded accessibility to the data. The accurate data developed through these efforts serve as the backbone for the development of additional data sets that are maintained and accessed by government decision makers and the public. Working with both state and local GIS users OGRIP has developed the GeOhio Spatial Information Portal for data discovery and dissemination to support one of the Council's key goals to ensure that data developed with tax-payer dollars is readily discoverable and accessible to the GIS user community.

The OGRIP Council was first created through Executive Order in 1993 to coordinate all interested entities to ensure taxpayer dollars were not used in duplicative spatial data collection efforts. In 2008, the legislature codified the Council, and its membership via HB 420. The legislation also expanded the Council's duties, requiring it to produce a State-Owned Real Property Inventory and associated Management Report. The chief (or designee) of the Division of Oil and Gas within the Department of Natural Resources was added to the Council in the recently adopted state FY2016-2017 operating budget (HB 64).

The Council welcomed the opportunity to coordinate the development of a comprehensive inventory of state-owned parcels and the creation of a management plan. Building upon previous collaborative efforts, the Council engaged state agencies and local government officials to compile a statewide parcel database layer, continuing the build-out of the Ohio Spatial Data Infrastructure (OSDI) and providing state agencies with much needed information to better manage these assets.



Members of the Council are representatives from the County Engineer's Association, County Commissioner's Association, County Auditor's Association, the Ohio Township Association, the Ohio Municipal League, and a representative from each of the following state agencies: Transportation, Natural Resources, DNR Division of Oil & Gas, Environmental Protection, Higher Education, Administrative Services, Public Safety, Development Services, the Attorney General and the Treasurer of State.

Members are not compensated for their time nor travel. The Council does not have a budget. Staffing and support for the Council is provided by the Department of Administrative Services.

Chairman Jordan and members of the Committee, the OGRIP Council provides valuable guidance, advice and support for coordinated spatial data development efforts that make efficient use of state assets. These efforts continue to benefit the state and its' local agency partners, and as it continues to foster a collaborative working environment among the state's GIS user community and for this reason we recommend its reauthorization. It has been my pleasure to testify before you today in support of the OGRIP Council. I thank you for your time this afternoon and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.