

May 2026 Issue

## 2026 OGIC Officers

January's meeting introduced new OGIC officers for 2026.

**Chair:** Dan Brown, Representing League of Oregon.

**Vice Chair:** Josh Tanner, Representing state agencies focused on public health, human services, education, or economic or community development.

**Immediate Past Chair:** Chris Wright, Representing state agencies focused on water, land, air quality, natural resources or infrastructure.

OGIC extends its gratitude to Molly Gartrell Earle, who has concluded her service on the executive committee.

OGIC's Executive Committee includes all officers, along with Oregon's Chief Data Officer, Geographic Information Officer and Geospatial Data Governance Coordinator.

## OGIC Meeting Recap

OGIC held quarterly meetings in January and April, both meetings were held virtually. April's meeting did not meet quorum and was held for informational purposes only. OGIC [meeting agendas](#) and [recordings](#) are available online.

## January Meeting Actions

OGIC voted and approved two (2) items during the quarterly council meeting:

### 1. OGIC Elects New Vice Chair

OGIC unanimously elected **Josh Tanner** as Vice Chair for 2026. In this role, Josh will serve on the OGIC Executive Committee, support the Chair throughout the year, and prepare to assume the position of Chair in 2027.

### 2. OGIC Joins Emergency Response Mapping Project

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) presented to OGIC and requested collaboration on its legislative report for Emergency Response Mapping of Critical Public Facilities.

OGIC identified Traci Naile (Oregon Department of Energy) to represent OGIC as the primary collaborator. Additionally, Tim Vandewalle (Yamhill Communications and OGIC Technical Advisory Committee) will provide technical support as needed throughout the project.

## OGIC is Seeking New Members!

OGIC brings together leaders from diverse sectors to promote collaboration, data sharing, and strategic planning for geospatial initiatives. Council members help guide policies, support innovation, and strengthen partnerships that enhance the accessibility and quality of geographic information for all Oregonians.

There are currently open seats to represent the following member groups:

- Oregon State Association of County Assessors
- Public Universities
- Federal Agency
- GIS Manager for County or City
- Non-profit
- State Agency (water, land, air quality, natural resources, or infrastructure)

Don't miss this opportunity to make an impact in Oregon's geospatial community!

## Apply Now

Learn more about the [Governor's Boards and Commissions](#).

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*For general questions regarding OGIC or the newsletter, reach out to Melissa Foltz at [melissa.foltz@das.oregon.gov](mailto:melissa.foltz@das.oregon.gov).*

## Special Meeting

OGIC held a special meeting on May 15, 2026, to review the 2025-2027 budget request. During the special meeting the council unanimously voted to submit the budget request for the current biennium to the State Chief Information Officer for consideration.

## Upcoming Meeting

OGIC's next council meeting will be virtually on July 29, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

## Oregon's Spring Framework Forum and Public Sector Data Community Meetup

The Data Governance and Transparency Program held its spring Framework Forum in April, partnering with the Public Sector Data Community Meetup to support a larger more diverse audience. Traditionally held twice a year in spring and fall, the Framework Forum focuses on geospatial data governance. By combining efforts with the Public Sector Data Community, the event highlighted the shared challenges and opportunities faced across both spatial and non-spatial data domains.

The joint event recognized that regardless of roles or disciplines, data custodians experience similar questions about how to achieve and maintain high-quality, authoritative data. The need for clear governance, effective stewardship, and consistent practices is universal across the data landscape.

The event opened with remarks from State Chief Data Officer Nate Ramsey, followed by presentations on topics such as documentation, data governance, Framework Program updates and agency-specific projects and examples illustrating how sustained focus can improve data quality and accessibility. Agency presentations included:

- Oregon Department of Transportation – Data Cataloging and Metadata Management
- Oregon Employment Department– Data Governance Journey
- Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Human Services – Why a Data Office? and How to Set Up a Data Office?
- Oregon Department of Emergency Management – GIS Strategy
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development – Updating and Maintaining Historic Statewide Urban Growth Boundaries and Zoning Layers

The event was open to the public and brought community members together to focus on data governance, data sharing across public bodies, and the stewardship responsibilities required to maintain high-quality, authoritative datasets that serve not only state agencies but all Oregonians.

[Recordings](#) of Framework Forums are available online. Visit [GEOHub](#) to learn more or to get involved with Oregon's Framework Program.