

**Strategic Plan for Geospatial Data Management
2023-2026**

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**Approved By
Oregon Geographic Information Council
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Strategic Plan for Geospatial Data Management 2023-2026



The growing utility of **geospatial data** and its recognition as a vital component of government decision making creates a critical opportunity to improve investment, development, and governance of geospatial data, thereby increasing access to high quality, authoritative geospatial data layers.



Vision

Authoritative, reliable geospatial data are available and accessible when and where needed to support the equitable provision of services across the state of Oregon.



Mission

The Oregon Geographic Information Council oversees Oregon's Framework Program in providing a consistent and reliable network of geospatial resources and data for all Oregonians.

Framework Themes

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Address Points | Geoscience |
| Admin Boundaries | Hazards |
| Bioscience | Preparedness |
| Cadastral | Hydrography |
| Climate | Land Use/Cover |
| Coastal and Marine | Transportation |
| Elevation | Imagery |
| Geodetic Control | Utilities |



Who is OGIC?

The Oregon Geographic Information Council is the lead entity with responsibility for overseeing the strategic development and governance of geospatial Framework data including the development, implementation, and review of policies, practices, and standards.



What is Geospatial Framework Data?

Geographic information that a public body, under applicable provisions of law, or on the basis of scientific methodology, technical standards or technical expertise creates, generates, provides or aggregates, and that the Oregon Geographic Information Council, in consultation with the public body, identifies as necessary to support the business processes of a governmental agency. ORS 276A.500



Goals & Objectives

Goal 1:

Improve Data Sharing & Accessibility
1a - Prioritize data for development within Framework Program Grant Program

1b - Ensure integration of geospatial data with Federal databases and/or standards

1c - Define imagery portfolio for Oregon and determine long-term funding strategy

1d - Coordinate with local governments to increase data sharing and aggregation

Goal 2:

Improve Data Governance

2a - Create data standards and stewardship plans for foundational datasets

2b - Complete data inventory for all geospatial Framework data elements

2c - Build continued alignment between enterprise data governance activities and the Framework Program



Strategic Plan Implementation

OGIC is the strategic and executive body responsible for guiding the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan.



The tactical and operational work will be led by the Geospatial Enterprise Office in partnership with OGIC Committees and performed by Framework Program participants and participating organizations.



Geospatial Data is important to Oregon.



Executive Summary

The importance and prevalence of geospatial data has increased significantly in the last few years. From the growth in Environmental Justice Mapping tools within State and Federal government, to the explosion of maps indicating COVID-19 prevalence and incidence rates during the pandemic, geospatial data and mapping have become pivotal tools for both internal decision-making and external communication and outreach. Despite huge gains for consumers and stakeholders through increased accessibility to technologies for creating and accessing these data, not all geospatial data are created equally, nor does it all meet the requirements of government applications and public services. The growing utility of geospatial data and its recognition as a vital component of government decision-making creates a critical opportunity to improve investment, development, and governance of geospatial data, thereby increasing access to high quality, authoritative geospatial data layers.

The Oregon Geographic Information Council (OGIC) created this strategic plan to guide the development, management and use of geospatial data in Oregon. Based on the legislative mandate given to the Council in ORS 276A.500-515, this plan focuses specifically on geospatial Framework data and how that subset of geospatial data is governed and shared between public bodies. Therefore, OGIC developed this strategic plan to guide the ongoing growth and support of the Oregon Framework Program for 2023 through 2026, recognizing the Framework Program as the primary geospatial data governance program for Oregon public bodies.

What is Geospatial Framework Data?

“Geospatial framework data” means geographic information that a public body, under applicable provisions of law, or on the basis of scientific methodology, technical standards or technical expertise creates, generates, provides or aggregates, and that the Oregon Geographic Information Council, in consultation with the public body, identifies as necessary to support the business processes of a governmental agency.

ORS 276A.500

This plan describes a shared state vision and mission for the Oregon Framework Program.

Vision: Authoritative, reliable geospatial data are available and accessible when and where needed to support the equitable provision of services across the state of Oregon.

Mission: The Oregon Geographic Information Council oversees Oregon’s Framework Program in providing a consistent and reliable network of geospatial resources and data for all Oregonians.

The plan also includes goals, objectives, and anticipated outcomes in areas of critical importance to the sustainable development of Oregon’s Framework Program.

Goal 1: Improve Data Sharing and Accessibility

- Objective 1a. Prioritize data for development within Framework Program Grant Program
- Objective 1b. Ensure integration of geospatial data with Federal databases and/or standards
- Objective 1c. Define imagery portfolio for Oregon and determine long-term funding strategy
- Objective 1d. Coordinate with local governments to increase data sharing and aggregation

Goal 2: Expand Data Governance

- Objective 2a. Create data standards and stewardship plans for foundational datasets
- Objective 2b. Complete data inventory for all geospatial Framework data elements
- Objective 2c. Build continued alignment between enterprise data governance activities and the Framework Program

Through Oregon’s Framework Program, stakeholders have made progress in development and management of some of the most critical Framework data sets, which also creates opportunities for collaboration and improvement. This Strategic Plan is designed to lay a strategic foundation for furthering growth and investment in the Oregon Framework Program and in the governance of geospatial data assets as vital resources for decision-making, program administration, and education and outreach. Through implementation of the goals and objectives identified within this Strategy, Oregon will build its geospatial data management maturity and continue growing a cohesive community of data stewards and data users all focused on the shared vision of managing geospatial data for the public good.

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Introduction

What Are Geospatial Data and Why Are These Data Important to Oregon?

People and organizations benefit from geospatial data on a daily basis, often unknowingly. Critical services provided by all levels of government operating in Oregon depend on location-based information including wildfire planning, mitigation and response, food production, economic growth, workforce development, public health and welfare, and elections.

Information about people, places, and events in Oregon are key to consistent and equitable provisioning of government services across the state. Without geospatial data and mapping technologies, ambulances aren't routed efficiently to homes and businesses, ballots do not have the correct information, and natural resources are not effectively managed. Geospatial information is a critical component of our infrastructure because it provides the ability to integrate a wide variety of data and services that contribute to the overall health and functioning of our society.

What is Oregon's Framework Program?

In the early 1990's, the federal government initiated a program to encourage states to develop seven statewide geographic datasets to facilitate the delivery of critical services to citizens and maximize public investment in transforming data into useable information. These thematic datasets are collectively referred to as Framework and are an integral component of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. In 2001, Oregon envisioned its own framework effort, going beyond the national vision, and designated an additional eight themes as Framework. At that time, these themes were further defined as a collection of multiple datasets, called data elements. Today, there are 16 Framework Themes and over 200 Framework data elements that are identified as being necessary to support government services in Oregon.

Oregon's Framework Program consists of the technology, policies, criteria, standards, data, and people necessary to promote geospatial data management and sharing throughout the Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and the private sector including nonprofit organizations and higher educational institutions.

In 2017, the Oregon Legislature formally recognized the growing need to improve geospatial data sharing and governance among public bodies by passing a law that strengthens the way Oregon government organizations manage and share geospatial data ([ORS 276A.500-515](#)). This law codified the Oregon Geographic Information Council (OGIC) as the lead entity with responsibility for overseeing the strategic development and governance of geospatial Framework data including the development, implementation, and review of policies, practices, and standards.

Over the years, Oregon's spatial infrastructure has become more robust as the use of digital data and technology have increased to form a knowledge-driven society. Geospatial data sharing and management across jurisdictions is imperative to support government services and all will benefit from a collaborative approach to advancing Oregon's Framework Program.

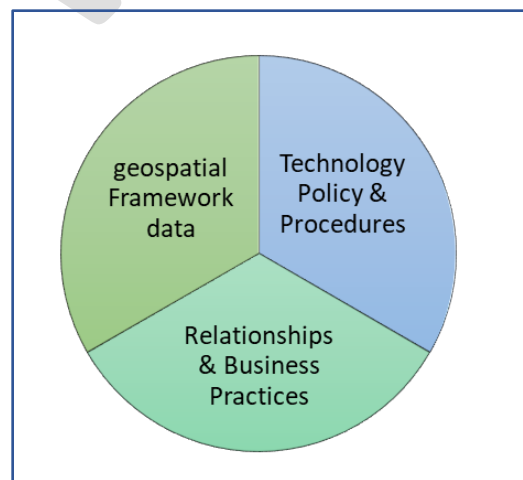


Figure 1 Oregon's Spatial Infrastructure

How is Oregon’s Framework Program Being Advanced?

For data sharing and data-informed decision making to be effective and equitable, public bodies need access to high quality, authoritative, and current geospatial data layers for shared decision-making. Oregon’s Framework Program is the primary driving force behind the creation of statewide, authoritative, and open geospatial data. As the Executive body responsible for Oregon’s Framework Program, OGIC recognizes that further growth and development of the Oregon Framework Program is a necessity for fostering continued geospatial data sharing and development amongst public bodies.

Through the past several years, Oregon state government and public bodies have taken critical actions to memorialize the value of data and information governance and sharing in supporting government services and policy decisions. The codification of ORS 276A.500-515 imbued OGIC with appropriate authority to lead and drive enterprise data governance of Framework data layers, and the forthcoming launch of GEOHub, the State’s first secure data sharing portal for geospatial data, offers new opportunities for public bodies¹ to share secure geospatial Framework data with each other to support coordination and collaboration.

WHY GEOSPATIAL DATA & DATA SHARING IS IMPORTANT

Example: Environmental Justice Mapping

House Bill 4077 (2022) requires the Environmental Justice Council, with support from State agencies, to develop an environmental justice mapping tool focused on addressing community needs and supporting environmental justice and environmental health equity within Oregon. This tool will require high quality, authoritative geospatial data layers to produce a tool that answers challenging policy questions related to environmental justice and public health.

Additionally, Oregon hired its first Chief Data Officer in 2019, recognizing the need for formal executive leadership and accountability for all data assets within the State, including geospatial data. Under the leadership of the Chief Data Officer, the State has launched its first enterprise data strategy, Open Data Program, and Statewide Data Governance Policy, which provide critical frameworks of support and engagement for the geospatial community to further expand and formalize roles and responsibilities around data management, use, sharing, and publication. The State’s continued investment in managing data as a strategic asset provides OGIC and the geospatial community critical opportunities to further grow and expand the governance and use of geospatial data within Oregon.

Oregon’s Framework Program depends on the active commitment and participation of local, regional, state, federal and tribal governments, the private sector, academia, and nonprofit organizations. This multifaceted web of relationships is being advanced by data-focused laws and policies and aligns with other recent data initiatives such as the Oregon Data Strategy. These statutes and policies underscore the growing reliance of government services on geospatial data and informed decision making.

Purpose of the Oregon Framework Program Strategic Plan

With new geospatial data sharing infrastructure being offered to public bodies alongside a strong and cohesive vision for enterprise data governance within Oregon, now is an opportune time to

¹ “**Public Body**” has the meaning given that term in ORS 174.109 (ORS 276A.500 (6)). Public body means state government bodies, local government bodies and special government bodies (ORS 174.109) [2001 c.74 §2].

reinvigorate and provide greater structure and vision to the Oregon Framework Program. Based on these opportunities, the Oregon Geographic Information Council has developed this strategic plan to guide ongoing growth and support of the Oregon Framework Program as the primary geospatial data governance program for Oregon public bodies and in alignment and support of Oregon's Data Strategy. The strategies identified by the Council in this plan are intended to improve the management, accessibility and sharing of geospatial datasets for the benefit of all public bodies. More efficient management and sharing of geospatial information will enable government agencies at all levels to provide services more consistently and equitably across Oregon.

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Shared Vision and Mission

The Oregon Geographic Information Council (OGIC) worked collaboratively with the Geographic Information Officer and participants of Oregon’s Framework Program to review and refresh the shared state vision and mission.

Vision

Authoritative, reliable geospatial data are available and accessible when and where needed to support the equitable provision of services across the state of Oregon.

As reflected in this vision statement, OGIC recognizes the critical need for all public bodies to have authoritative and reliable geospatial data to ensure that government services are provided across the state of Oregon. A vibrant spatial infrastructure must be available in all corners of Oregon for the benefit of society, the economy, and the environment.

Mission

The Oregon Geographic Information Council oversees Oregon’s Framework Program in providing a consistent and reliable network of geospatial resources and data for all Oregonians.

As reflected in this mission statement, the purpose of Oregon’s Framework Program is to design, develop, acquire, maintain, and enhance geospatial resources and data for all Oregonians. The Program coordinates the ever-evolving collection of data, information, technology, standards, policies, and people required to achieve the shared vision. It recognizes authoritative sources of geospatial data, supports data stewardship, and advocates for data standardization which provides shared benefits for all.

Strategic Goals & Objectives

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 276A.503 requires OGIC to “oversee the preparation and maintenance of a plan to enhance geographic framework information sharing and management and to enhance coordination with respect to geographic framework information among public bodies within this state”. The following goals are focused on critical components to expand the growth and maturity of the Framework Program, with objectives identified to advance these strategic goals to achieve the stated anticipated outcomes.

Goal 1: Improve Data Sharing and Accessibility

Objective 1a. Prioritize data for development within Framework Program Grant Program

Anticipated Outcome: Consensus amongst Framework Program participants on the definition and identification of foundational datasets to establish and inform funding priorities and data development needs

Objective 1b. Ensure integration of geospatial data with Federal databases and/or standards

Anticipated Outcome: Greater standardization and integration improves cross-jurisdictional collaboration

Objective 1c. Define imagery portfolio for Oregon and determine long-term funding strategy

Anticipated Outcome: Consensus amongst Framework Program participants on priority imagery products and update frequencies; Resourcing strategy and a successful pilot initiative to establish sustainable funding mechanisms for imagery products

Objective 1d. Coordinate with local governments to increase data sharing and aggregation

Anticipated Outcome: Authoritative data from local governments are aggregated for public body use resulting in more accurate, data-informed decision making

Goal 2: Expand Data Governance

Objective 2a. Create data standards and stewardship plans for foundational datasets

Anticipated Outcome: Consensus amongst Framework Program participants on the definition and identification of foundational datasets; Framework Program data management practices and standards support the governance of data throughout its lifecycle.

Objective 2b. Complete data inventory for all geospatial Framework data elements

Anticipated Outcome: Framework Program participants review the current data inventory and document key attributes for each to improve the management of the data.

Objective 2c. Build continued alignment between enterprise data governance activities and the Framework Program

Anticipated Outcome: Framework Program operations and procedures will leverage the state data strategy and enterprise data governance policies to promote a more integrated approach to data sharing and accessibility

Implementation

The success of the Oregon Framework Program relies upon the consistent and active participation of the Oregon Geographic Information Council, Federal, State, and local governments, special service districts, tribal governments, public bodies, private and non-profit industries and organizations, and the GIS community at-large. The diversity and breadth of stakeholders involved in the creation and management of geospatial data at a statewide level means that each objective identified within this strategy requires a commitment of time, effort, and energy from all parties to realize OGIC's vision.

The Framework Program also aligns directly to and supports other enterprise data initiatives, such as the Open Data Program, Oregon Data Strategy, and Statewide Data Governance Policy, all of which are focused on the growth and development of high quality, authoritative data to inform and support decision making and equitable service delivery to Oregonians. The Oregon Framework Program is the geospatial-oriented arm of these initiatives, in direct support of the Chief Data Officer and Geographic Information Officer's mandate to improve the State's leveraging of data as a strategic asset.

Implementation Approach

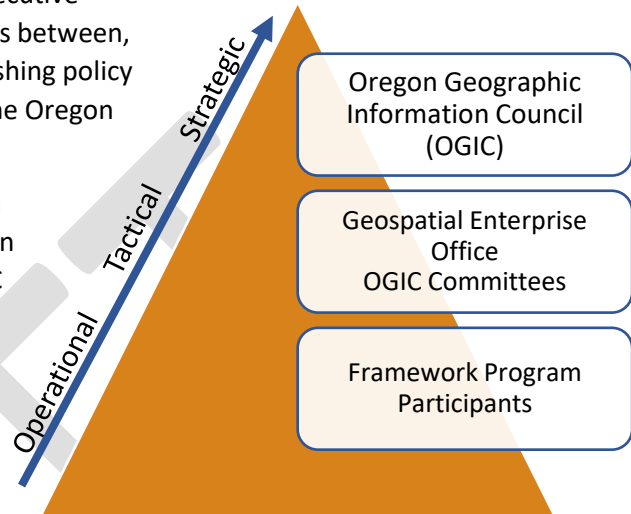
The Oregon Geographic Information Council (OGIC) serves as the strategic and executive body responsible for guiding the implementation of the goals and objectives identified within this plan. There are many stakeholder groups represented on the Council, including counties, cities, special districts, tribal government, 911 centers, and other public and private entities who create, share, or utilize geospatial data. OGIC's central focus is to provide executive leadership for the coordination of geospatial activities between, among, and within the stakeholder groups by establishing policy and facilitating activities that enhance and support the Oregon Framework program.

The tactical and operational work to be carried out in support of this strategic plan will be led by the Oregon Geospatial Enterprise Office in partnership with OGIC Committees and performed by Framework Program participants and participating organizations who are identified as data custodians and stewards.

OGIC Work Plans

In addition to the adoption of this strategic plan, the Council will create a biennial work plan to formalize OGIC activities that should occur in parallel to the Framework Program activities. The creation of an OGIC work plan acknowledges that OGIC members have roles and responsibilities that are in addition to the oversight of the Oregon Framework Program. Therefore, the work plan will have the following components:

- OGIC Activities and Strategies
 - OGIC's strategies to improve geospatial framework data sharing to reduce duplication of effort and improve the coordination of data sharing by public bodies.
 - OGIC committees, roles and responsibilities associated with OGIC's own strategies to improve data sharing and management by public bodies
- Framework Program Oversight
 - OGIC committees, roles, and responsibilities associated with specific Framework Program strategic goals and outcomes
 - OGIC Champions designated to lead the efforts associated with a specific Framework Program goal. These champions will support the Council by meeting with the Framework Theme leads and teams, developing implementation plans, identifying milestones and timelines, and working with the Geographic Information Officer (GIO) and Geospatial Data Governance Coordinator to support Framework activities associated with each objective.



Geospatial Enterprise Office

The GIO, as primary staff support to OGIC, is responsible for oversight of the portfolio of goals and identifying any areas where OGIC support is needed to remove obstacles, identify potential stakeholder groups for engagement, offer staff and time resources to ensure work is completed, and to provide strategic oversight of the goals and outcomes identified within this plan. The Geospatial Data Governance Coordinator supports the activities of the Framework Program and will work in tandem with the GIO to advance the goals and objectives.

Framework Program Participation

As stated above, the shared vision and mission are written and implemented in order to support the public good and for the benefit of all Oregonians. The operational needs of government often cross jurisdictional boundaries, and therefore collaboration and sharing among all levels of government, academia, non-profits, and the public are needed. Everyone benefits when we can create efficiencies and improvements in government service delivery.

Measuring Progress

Included in implementation is the development of performance metrics and success indicators to determine whether the strategic goals and objectives are meeting their anticipated outcomes. Performance management is a critical component of success, as data collected in this process will inform OGIC of future actions, identify whether goals and objectives have had the anticipated impact and outcomes, and enable better management of the Framework Program in the future.

The Geospatial Enterprise Office and OGIC champions will coordinate with the Framework theme leaders to identify appropriate and reasonable metrics that support the goals and objectives in this plan. The OGIC champions will be responsible for reporting to OGIC the status of the metrics, barriers preventing advancement of objectives, and requests for assistance by Framework participants.

Conclusion

Geospatial data contains immense opportunity to improve outcomes, increase efficiency, and address statewide social challenges. However, in order for Oregon to leverage geospatial data effectively, we must have high-quality, authoritative, timely data that is available when and where needed to aid all public bodies in making decisions. The Strategic Plan for Geospatial Data Management outlines the critical priorities for the Oregon Geographic Information Council in building and expanding upon the previous successes and strengths of the Oregon Framework Program, and in taking advantage of new enterprise opportunities to expand and increase investment and participation in geospatial data governance. While this plan covers a brief period of time (2023-26), the ongoing investment in managing data as a strategic asset is a long-term transformational effort that will better equip public bodies and the State of Oregon to deliver efficient, effective, and equitable services to all Oregonians.