

Salt Lake County GIS Solutions and Technology Working Group

Strategic Plan 2023-2026



Introduction

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a valuable technology that effectively communicates location-based information to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for Salt Lake County residents. The purpose of the 3-year GIS Strategic Plan is to create a shared vision for GIS technology in Salt Lake County that align with the mission of the GIS Steering Committee and the County as a whole.

Mission

The mission of the GIS Solutions and Technology Working Group (STWG) is to serve as a subsidiary and recommending group to the GIS Steering Committee and the guiding coalition on GIS solutions and technology for Salt Lake County.

Vision

To foster the use of GIS in support of better decision making, efficient data management and sharing, while creating opportunities to improve engagement with internal and external stakeholders. In addition, continue to balance GIS services and growth while being good stewards of current resources.

Current Status of Salt Lake County GIS

The County's GIS is decentralized and represented by various elected departments and agencies, commonly referred to as the Business-side of the County. The GIS tasks differ based on the needs and statutory requirements of these offices. The County's Information Technology department serves as the administration and repository of the GIS systems each division utilizes.

The GIS STWG is a committee comprised of GIS staff that represent the Businesses of the County, as well as non-voting members of IT that offer advice and support on the backend structure of County GIS. [Bylaws](#) have been created that help govern and guide the group.

GIS continues to grow and evolve at the County as more people are utilizing its benefits, and as a result there is more demand for GIS software and licenses. Budget constraints are an ongoing

issue, and the STWG is currently striving to find a balance between GIS growth and limited resources.

The STWG has defined 4 main goals and objectives to guide our decisions and path forward for the next 3 years.

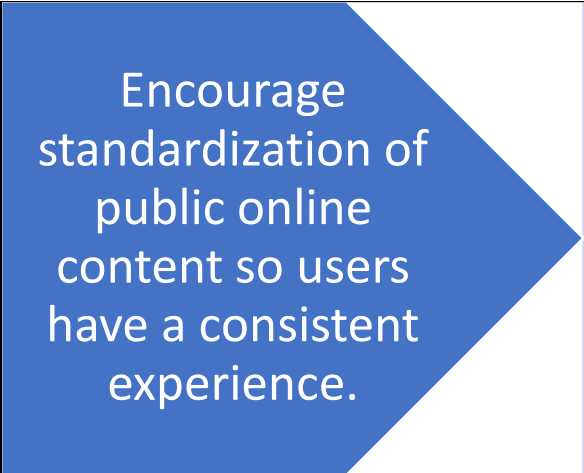
Looking Forward

If these goals are achieved within the 3-year horizon it will enable better scalability into future enterprises. In addition, realizing these will help the County integrate new technology more efficiently as well as establish better working and communication relationships across this broad spectrum of users. This includes defined workflows for authoritative information along with lifecycles of software and data all while helping manage the appropriate use of funds and be more cost effective.



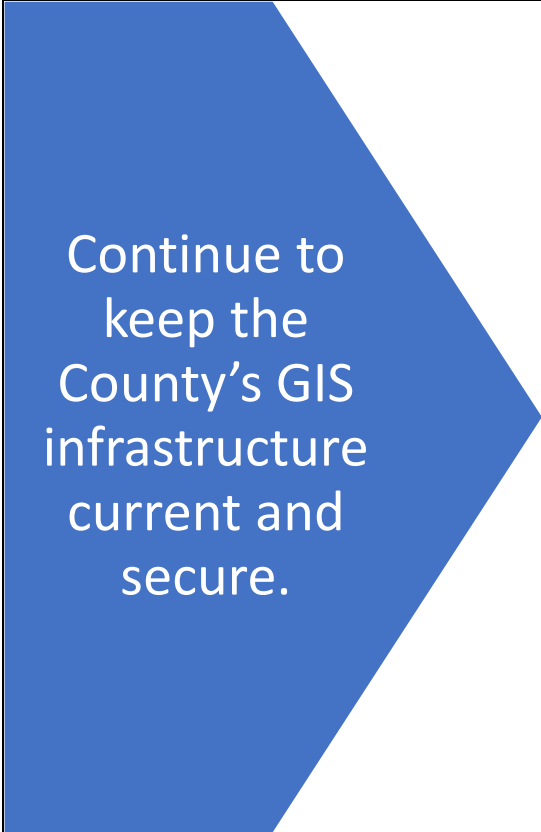
Be good stewards
of current GIS
license and
software
resources.

- Continue regular STWG meetings so members can coordinate with each other and IT on technical, licensing, and budgetary items .
- Evaluate GIS licensing allocations and remove licenses from those who no longer need them on a regular basis as determined by the GIS Steering Committee.
- Maintain tools that help the STWG monitor County IT resources and licensing when considering GIS growth.



Encourage
standardization of
public online
content so users
have a consistent
experience.

- Provide users guiding documents and resources for web authorship, publishing, and making authoritative content easily identifiable and accessible.
- Identify redundant information in online GIS environments and work out a mechanism for mitigation.



Continue to
keep the
County's GIS
infrastructure
current and
secure.

- Implement a process to back up data from ArcGIS Online to protect from information loss.
- Point online data services to County-owned databases when feasible and develop a plan to ensure data is registered to County systems.
- Generate procedures to evaluate existing ArcMap business needs and then develop plans and provide resources to assist in the migration to ArcGIS Pro.
- Participate in the Countywide Data Governance effort to catalog and identify key GIS datasets.
- Create systems to streamline workflows for effective data management between data owners and IT.



Improve
engagement of
County GIS users
and stakeholders
through
communication
and outreach.

- Coordinate with IT to create trainings and reference resources for the County geospatial community.
- Hold an annual gallery to showcase County GIS maps and engage others in the work being done.
- Improve collaboration among users through regular meetings and online discussions to reduce duplication and increase skillsets.