

# California GIS Council

## Charter Review and Strategic Plan Workgroup Report

### March 20, 2020

The workgroup met on February 28. Attending were Phil Beilin, Melanie Rosenberg, Carol Ostergren, Jeff Kapellas, Matt Lamborn, and Jane Schafer-Kramer. Members who were unable to attend are Steve Steinberg, Shital Dhakal, An-Min Wu, and Isaac Cabrera.

Jane and Jeff shared some results of a survey that the Department of Technology sent to the state government GIS Community of Practice in December. The results (posted here: <https://public.tableau.com/profile/ca.open.data#!/vizhome/GISListeningSessionSurveyResults/GISListeningSessionSurveyResults>) ranked the topics most important to this community of state employees. The top seven are:

1. Statewide Framework Datasets
2. Improve Communication and Collaboration
3. Identifying Owners of Authoritative Datasets
4. Open Data
5. Statewide Software Licensing
6. Establishing Best Practices
7. Data Format and Protocol Standards

This workgroup will produce a similar survey for GIS Council members. We recognize that the GIS Council fills an even more important role than what the Department of Technology recognizes as the GIS Community of Practice. The group is concerned that the new Geographic Information Officer (currently in the hiring process) will be state government-focused and not be enabled or willing to involve the larger GIS community as represented by this Council.

AB 2209 has been introduced by Assembly Member Chad Mayes, who also serves on the Little Hoover Commission. This bill

[http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201920200AB2209](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200AB2209) deals with the implementation of the recommendations of the Little Hoover Commission Report

<https://lhc.ca.gov/sites/lhc.ca.gov/files/Report%20248.pdf>. It establishes a GIO position that would be appointed by the Governor. (The current GIO position is a civil service IT manager position, not a Governor's appointment.) The bill also establishes the California Geographic Information Advisory Council to advise the GIO on issues of policy and implementation. The Council would be composed of twenty-one representatives of the various constituencies and would be appointed by the Governor. It also states that the Council shall form a technical committee of GIS experts and technologists to discuss agency technical needs and strategies to deploy GIS technology collaboratively. The group discussed how the present Council fits in to the proposed council structure, but no recommendation has been formed yet. The California

Geographic Information Association (CGIA) is keeping a close eye on this and is hoping to communication with legislative staff regarding this bill.

This workgroup recommends that the GIS Council Executive Committee meet with the new State Chief Data Officer Joy Bonaguro and the new GIO (if onboard) before the June 11 GIS Council meeting.

This workgroup will meet again within the next month to compose the survey and discuss next steps. Anyone wishing to join this workgroup may do so by contacting [Jane.Schafer-Kramer@water.ca.gov](mailto:Jane.Schafer-Kramer@water.ca.gov).