

5 QUESTIONS ELECTION DIRECTORS CAN ASK THEIR STATE GIO

HERE ARE FIVE QUESTIONS AN ELECTION DIRECTOR CAN ASK THEIR STATE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OFFICER (GIO), CRAFTED WITH THE HELP OF GIS AND ELECTION EXPERTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY.

1 States are responsible for voter registration and elections databases, with much of this data being geographic. Are there synergies to be found in partnering with state-level geographic information offices?

2 What would it take (players, capacity, resources, policy) to get to a current, state-wide precinct layer? How do we keep this layer current and what is the appropriate schedule for this process?

3 How are the official boundaries for state and local elected offices maintained? Can they be visualized and analyzed in map form to ensure accuracy?

4 What is the best geographic layer for addresses of voters we have as a state right now? Who manages this data and how is this management funded? Is it accurate? How do we keep this current? Can this voter data be used immediately?

5 Can this voter information overlap with Next Generation 9-1-1?* What does the schedule look like for NG9-1-1 implementation? Separately, when might we expect a top-notch address layer or geocoding service from any source? What tools, like a geocoding engine, are at our disposal already?

*) NG9-1-1 is an initiative aimed at updating the 9-1-1 service infrastructure in the United States and Canada to allow text, images, video and data, in addition to voice, transmission, to 9-1-1 centers



The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) is a state-led organization for developing, exchanging, and endorsing geospatial technology and policy best practices. Its Geo-Enabled Elections project focuses specifically on the use of geospatial information in elections.

Go to www.NSGIC.org to learn more.