

**Address Theme  
Strategic Plan  
2025 - 2027**

Geospatial Data Act of 2018  
Section USC 43 Sec 2805(b)(3) Requirements

September 30, 2024



Introduction .....	1
Background .....	1
I. Goal: 2805(b)(3)(E) – Administer the Theme.....	4
I.A. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(a) – Point of Contact .....	4
I.B. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(I) – Annual Reporting.....	4
I.C. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(II) – Annual Report Comments.....	5
II. Goal: 2805(b)(3)(B) – Provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme .....	6
II.A. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(i) – Partnerships.....	6
II.B. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(ii) and 2805(b)(3)(D) – User Needs.....	6
II.C. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iii) – Human and Financial Resources.....	8
II.D. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(iii) – Publish Maps or Comparable Graphics Online .....	9
II.E. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(iv) – Provide Access to NGDA Through the GeoPlatform.....	9
II.F. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(v) – Coordinate with the GeoPlatform .....	10
II.G. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(vi) – Publish Proven Geospatial Practices.....	11
III. Goal: 2805(b)(3)(A), (b)(3)(B)(iv) – Assess Metadata and Data Standards .....	13
III.A. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iv) – Metadata Standards .....	13
III.B. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(A)(i); (ii); (iii) – Data Standards.....	14
Appendix A: NGDA Data Themes (GDA Sec 2805) and NSDI Strategic Plan Crosswalk .....	17
Appendix B: Human and Financial Resources Needs to Support the NGDA Themes.....	18
Appendix C: Standards in Use by the Address Theme NGDA Datasets .....	19

## Introduction

This Address Theme Strategic Plan (henceforth Plan), developed in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, spans three years, FY 2025 - FY 2027. The Plan outlines a strategy to achieve progress toward meeting [Section 2805 of the Geospatial Data Act of 2018](#)<sup>1</sup> (GDA). The Plan derives its origin from Sec. 2805 (b)(3)(B) to “provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme.” The Plan is organized by goals, addressing major subsections of Sec. 2805, objectives supporting the goals, and anticipated actions to be taken over the lifecycle of the Plan to achieve progress.<sup>2</sup> In addition to meeting GDA requirements, these goals and objectives align with the [National Spatial Data Infrastructure \(NSDI\) Strategic Plan](#)<sup>3</sup> as required by Section 2805(b)(3)(C). A crosswalk of the GDA and the NSDI Strategic Plan can be found in Appendix A of this document. For each FY covered by the Plan, the lead covered agency theme (see Background below) will generate an annual performance report, as required by the GDA, to inform on progress in achieving the Plan.

Consistent with the above requirements, the Plan is intended to advance the Address Theme, as described in OMB Circular A-16 Revised (2002), Supplemental Guidance Appendix E (2017), toward the vision of the Address Theme Subcommittee:

*The Address Theme provides a complete, current, accurate, authoritative, and discoverable collection of mapped addresses that is interoperable with other NSDI datasets, and that enables consistent and reliable use within critical applications by government, businesses, education, and the general public.*

## Background

The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), henceforth Committee, is composed of both covered and non-covered agencies as defined by the GDA. For each National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) data theme (henceforth theme), the Committee designates one or more covered agencies as lead covered agencies (LCA) for the theme. As called for in the [OMB Circular A-16 Supplemental Guidance](#),<sup>4</sup> the lead covered agencies designate theme leads to oversee the management of the theme. The lead covered agencies have taken a coordinated approach to addressing GDA section 2805.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.fgdc.gov/gda/43-usc-ch-46-geospatial-data-geospatial-data-act.pdf#page=8>

<sup>2</sup> Sec 2802(c)(A)(i) an evaluation of the progress of each lead covered agency in achieving the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) of section 2805(b)(3) of this title; and (ii) a determination of whether, for each of subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) of section 2805(b)(3) of this title, each lead covered agency meets expectations, has made progress toward expectations, or fails to meet expectations.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.fgdc.gov/nsdi-plan/nsdi-strategic-plan-2021-2024.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy\\_drupal\\_files/omb/memoranda/2011/m11-03.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/legacy_drupal_files/omb/memoranda/2011/m11-03.pdf).

It should be noted that the revised Circular A-16 is currently in development for release by the Office of Management and Budget for use by the FGDC Community. Associated Technical Guidance may be developed by FGDC once the revised Circular is released.

Starting in late FY 2022 and continuing into FY 2023, lead covered agencies collaborated on a common approach to improving annual performance reporting.<sup>5</sup> The result is a Theme Strategic Plan template for use by all themes based on a common set of goals and objectives to meet the GDA requirements. This approach ensures the application of a common set of metrics and allows the FGDC Office of the Secretariat (FGDC OS) to provide a consistent summary of individual and collective progress made by all themes in meeting GDA requirements. Depending on their complexity, themes may expand beyond the common set of goals, objectives, and actions within the template. In subsequent years, within the lifecycle of the Plan, the US Census Bureau (Census) and the US Department of Transportation (DOT) for the Address Theme will provide an annual report that includes status on identified actions and demonstrates progress made in achieving the Plan goals and objectives aligned to the GDA requirements.

As the Lead Covered Agencies for the Address Theme, the Census and DOT developed this Plan to detail the activities necessary to achieve a shared vision for the theme. The FGDC Steering Committee, in concurrence with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), approved the creation of a NGDA Address Theme on August 8, 2016. The addition of the theme represented an official change and update to OMB Circular A-16,<sup>6</sup> Appendix E. The theme definition was approved by the FGDC-SC on March 24, 2017:

*The Address Theme supports and coordinates address focused datasets under the theme, consisting of the data elements, attributes, and metadata that specify a fixed geographic location by reference to a thoroughfare or landmark, or specify a point of postal delivery, or both. This address focused data does not include information about occupants or addressees, nor does it include the attribute information about any features that may be specified by an address point. These address focused datasets may include linkages to these feature attributes and other location reference methods.<sup>7</sup>*

The Census and DOT initiated a stakeholder engagement process and received input from its federal agency partners (Federal Emergency Management Agency, Housing and Urban Development, Homeland Security, Veterans Administration, others) and state government partners associated with the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) through the Address Subcommittee, which functions as the primary coordinating body for the theme. The Address Subcommittee represents FGDC recognized

---

<sup>5</sup> NSDI Strategic Plan Goal 1.3. Identify common approaches and tools to meet GDA and related planning and reporting requirements.

Sec 2805 (b)(3)(E)(ii)(I): (ii) submit to the Committee—

(I) a performance report, at least annually, that documents the activities relating to and implementation of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, including progress in achieving the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D).

<sup>6</sup> “OMB Circular No. A-16 Revised,” *Office of Management and Budget*, August 19, 2002, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Circular-016.pdf> [Note: “Tribe” or “tribal” relates to recognized American Indian and Alaska Native entities].

<sup>7</sup> National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) Data Themes list with theme descriptions and theme leads agencies. Endorsed by the Federal Geographic Data Committee Steering Committee August 1, 2011, Revised August 8, 2016. <https://www.fgdc.gov/policyandplanning/a-16/appendixe/20170324-ngda-themes-fgdc-sc-revised-appendixe.pdf>.

stakeholders involved in the geospatial community, as described in the Geospatial Data Act of 2018, that have a common interest in address data and issues that support critical use cases.

The resulting 2025-2027 Strategic Plan offers a framework for maturing and enhancing the theme in a way sensitive to technological, economic, and organizational constraints and opportunities. It updates the goals and objectives included in the *2019-2021 Address Theme Strategic Plan* and aligns with the NSDI Strategic Plan 2021-2024 (November 2020) as outlined in **Appendix A** of this 2025-2027 Plan.

The goals and objectives reflect the priorities for this theme over the next three years (2025-2027). This general outline for the Strategic Plan specifies the content and organization necessary for the successful expansion and update of current address point location data throughout the United States, District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories.

**Goal 1:** Administer the Theme

**Goal 2:** Provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset Data Theme

**Goal 3:** Assess Metadata and Data Standards

Additionally, the plan documents the challenges and opportunities the Theme Co-Leads and dataset managers foresee in the Plan's lifespan, including the steps that the Census, DOT and its partners will take collectively to achieve the goals. The quality of the theme hinges on completeness, accuracy, and accessibility of spatial data for all thoroughfare and landmark addresses across the nation and its territories.

## I. Goal: 2805(b)(3)(E) – Administer the Theme

The Committee designates National Geospatial Data Asset data themes (henceforth theme).<sup>8</sup> The Committee also designates one or more covered agencies as the lead covered agencies for each theme.<sup>9</sup> Themes may include NGDA datasets that are contributed by other covered agencies and non-covered agencies. The Census and DOT are designated the leads for the Address Theme.

### I.A. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(a) – Point of Contact

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to designate a point of contact within the lead covered agency who shall be responsible for developing, maintaining, coordination relating to, and disseminating data using the GeoPlatform.

#### **GDA Reference**

*(b) Lead covered agencies*

*(3) Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

*(E) as part of administering the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme—*

*(i) designate a point of contact within the lead covered agency who shall be responsible for developing, maintaining, coordination relating to, and disseminating data using the GeoPlatform;*

#### I.A.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(i) – Point of Contact

The DOT and Census shall designate a point of contact (POC) who shall be responsible for developing, maintaining, coordination relating to, and disseminating data using the GeoPlatform. The POC will be updated and reported annually.

In addition to annual reporting, the DOT and Census shall inform the Committee of interim changes to the POC as necessary to maintain continuity.

Additionally, the DOT and Census shall designate an alternate POC who shall be responsible for backing up the primary POC in the development, maintenance, coordination relating to, and dissemination of data using the GeoPlatform. The alternate POC will be updated and reported annually.

### I.B. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(I) – Annual Reporting

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to submit a performance report, at least annually, that documents the activities relating to and implementation of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme.

#### **GDA Reference**

*(b) Lead covered agencies*

---

<sup>8</sup> Sec 2805(a) the term "National Geospatial Data Asset data theme" is defined as the National Geospatial Data Asset core geospatial datasets (including electronic records and coordinates) relating to a topic or subject designated under section 2805 of this title.

<sup>9</sup> Sec 2805(b)(1) For each National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the Committee shall designate one or more covered agencies as the lead covered agencies for the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme.

**(3) Specific responsibilities**

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

**(E) as part of administering the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme—**

**(ii) submit to the Committee—**

**(I) a performance report, at least annually, that documents the activities relating to and implementation of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, including progress in achieving the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D); and**

**I.B.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(I) – Annual Reporting**

The Census and DOT shall submit a performance report annually that documents the activities relating to and implementation of the NGDA data theme, including progress in achieving the requirements under subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D).

**I.C. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(II) – Annual Report Comments**

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to submit comments to the Committee about the annual performance summary, as appropriate.

**GDA Reference**

**(b) Lead covered agencies**

**(3) Specific responsibilities**

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

**(E) as part of administering the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme—**

**(ii) submit to the Committee—**

**(II) comments, as appropriate, regarding the summary and evaluation of the performance report provided by the Committee under section 2802(c)(12) of this title;**

**I.C.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(II) – Annual Report Comments**

The Census and DOT shall submit comments, as appropriate, regarding the summary and evaluation of the performance report provided by the FGDC OS under section 2802(c)(12).

**I.C.ii. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(II) – Annual Report Comments**

The Co-Executive Champions (Census/Geography Division Chief and DOT/Chief Information Officer), Theme Co-Leads, and other designated stakeholders from both agencies will review the annual performance report provided by the FGDC OS under section 2802(c)(12).

## II. Goal: 2805(b)(3)(B) – Provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme

The Address Theme Leads developed this Plan in coordination with the agencies that manage and contribute to NGDA datasets within the Theme. Over the next three years, the Theme Lead(s) shall facilitate the implementation of this Plan through annual performance reporting. Each of the following goals and objectives within this Plan support the nationwide population of the NGDA data theme in direct correlation with the GDA.

### II.A. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(i) – Partnerships

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to provide leadership and facilitate a plan to develop partnership programs with states, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, private sector entities, other federal agencies, and local governments.

#### **GDA Reference**

*(b) Lead covered agencies*

*(3) Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

*(B) provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, which shall—*

*(i) include developing partnership programs with States, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, private sector entities, other Federal agencies, and local governments;*

#### II.A.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(i) – Partnerships

The theme, through the leadership of the DOT and Census, will identify the groups involved in the geospatial community, as described in the Geospatial Data Act of 2018, that have legal, organizational, logistical, or technical impediments to participation, and will collaborate with them on possible solutions. It will promote the advantages of the National Address Database (NAD) to both current and potential partners.

The theme will also collaborate with volunteer partner jurisdictions that have addressing challenges (e.g., tribal, remote territorial) to determine how DOT can incorporate their address data into the NAD, document the partnership submittal process, and develop a communication plan. This will include identifying both successes and challenges in partnership outreach, with the goal of developing best practices in the future.

### II.B. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(ii) and 2805(b)(3)(D) – User Needs

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to provide leadership and facilitate a plan to meet the needs of users of geospatial data including a process to, as necessary, collect and analyze information from users of NGDA within the Theme and incorporate the needs of those users into strategies related to the NGDA data theme.



## GDA References

**(b)** *Lead covered agencies*

**(3)** *Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

**(B)** *provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, which shall—*

**(ii)** *meet the needs of users of geospatial data;*

AND

**(b)(3)(D)** *as necessary, collect and analyze information from users of geospatial data within the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme regarding the needs of the users for geospatial data and incorporate the needs of users in strategies relating to the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme;*

### II.B.i. [Action\(s\) to Meet Objective: 2805\(b\)\(3\)\(B\)\(ii\) and 2805\(b\)\(3\)\(D\) – User Needs](#)

The theme shall assess user needs by engaging with the groups involved in the geospatial community, as described in the Geospatial Data Act of 2018, through collaborative events and activities. Collaborative events and activities may include but are not limited to: 1) leading or actively participating in meetings relevant to the theme, 2) actively participating in conferences and workshops relevant to the theme, and 3) co-creating data and knowledge relevant to the theme.

### II.B.ii. [Action\(s\) to Meet Objective: 2805\(b\)\(3\)\(B\)\(ii\) and 2805\(b\)\(3\)\(D\) – User Needs \(FGDC Subcommittees and Working Groups\)](#)

The Census and DOT shall perform theme-specific actions within FGDC subcommittees and working groups to collect and analyze user needs associated with the Address Theme and NGDA datasets, namely through the activities of the FGDC Address Subcommittee and its working groups.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to address user needs within FGDC Subcommittees and Working Groups include:

The Census and DOT co-lead the FGDC Address Subcommittee to collect and analyze stakeholder needs. These efforts support improving and expanding nationally complete and consistent address data that uses the same geographic base and ensures that federal address sources are consistent, accurate, and integrated.

The Address Subcommittee will:

- Facilitate monthly meetings.
- Report on the activities of the Address Subcommittee and its associated Theme Community (Address) and subgroups (Address Content, Address Workflow, Address Theme Strategic Planning, and Address Standards Maintenance).
- Report on the progress of expanding the coverage and improving the quality and processes for the NAD, the sole NGDA Dataset under the theme at present.
- Report on the progress of the 10x program, administered by the Government Services Administration (GSA), in facilitating knowledge exchange, partnerships, and other support in the effort to facilitate eventual data exchange between with US Territories and Island Areas, and the NAD.

- Propose new Address Theme NGDA datasets, if requested, to the FGDC Steering Committee originating from federal agencies and/or other stakeholders.
- Lead subgroups under the Address Subcommittee, focused on achieving specific goals to address stakeholder/user needs and leading to positive outcomes.
  - The Address Workflow Subgroup documents best practices for address data validation and quality, documented in recommended but flexible address aggregation workflows.
  - The Address Content Subgroup assesses and documents minimum and supported address data content to meet stakeholder and user needs in national level NGDA datasets for addresses.
  - The Address Strategic Planning Subgroup develops the FY25-FY27 Address Theme Strategic Plan, and distributes it to the Address Subcommittee membership, the Theme Co-Leads, and Census and DOT leadership for input and final approval before submission to FGDC, in compliance with the GDA.
  - The Address Standards Maintenance Subgroup works with the stakeholder community to develop proposals for the updating the FGDC United States Thoroughfare, Landmark, and Postal Address Data Standard (2011), for Address Subcommittee approval and submission to the FGDC for their approval and endorsement.

### II.C. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iii) – Human and Financial Resources

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to provide leadership and facilitate a plan to address human and financial resource needs for nationwide population of the NGDA data theme.

#### **GDA Reference**

**(b)** *Lead covered agencies*

**(3)** *Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

**(B)** *provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, which shall—*

**(iii)** *address human and financial resource needs;*

### II.C.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iii) – Human and Financial Resources

The Census and DOT shall identify the key theme roles and commitments required to address the human and financial resource needs to support the Address Theme.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to facilitate the development of a plan that addresses human and financial needs to support the theme include:

- Providing a general description of staff and resources necessary to support the Address Theme management, reporting, products, and online shared services environments (SSEs) that can include the roles and responsibilities described in Appendix B.
- Collaborating with other Lead Covered Agencies to refine and standardize human and financial resource needs reporting to support the NGDA themes.

- Beginning the analysis of business process needs to underpin any conclusions about whether current NAD operations will meet stakeholder requirements for a NAD that is complete, current, accurate, authoritative, and discoverable.

#### II.D. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(iii) – Publish Maps or Comparable Graphics Online

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to publish maps or comparable graphics online showing the extent and status of NGDA data within the Theme.

##### **GDA Reference**

*(b) Lead covered agencies*

*(3) Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

*(E) as part of administering the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme—*

*(iii) publish maps or comparable graphics online (in accordance with the mapping conventions specified by the Committee) showing the extent and status of the National Geospatial Data Asset data themes for which the covered agency is a lead covered agency;*

#### II.D.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(iii) – Publish Maps or Comparable Graphics Online

The DOT and Census shall publish maps and appropriate graphics after each quarterly NAD update and revise the status maps and statistics to reflect latest coverage, data age, and participant information.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to facilitate the development of a plan that addresses map publication and graphics to support the theme include:

- Exploring creation of enhanced coverage products to meet user needs, including charts, interactive maps, or dashboards.
- Investigating a statistical measure to easily convey participation rates that consider different types of tribal, state, and local coverage.

#### II.E. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(iv) – Provide Access to NGDA Through the GeoPlatform

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to encourage Theme data and metadata sources to share their data via the GeoPlatform.

##### **GDA Reference**

*(b) Lead covered agencies*

*(3) Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

*(E) as part of administering the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme—*

*(iv) encourage individuals and entities that are a source of geospatial data or metadata for geospatial data for the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme to provide access to such data through the GeoPlatform;*

### II.E.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(iv) – Provide Access to NGDA Through the GeoPlatform

DOT shall provide the latest version of NAD data and metadata to Data.gov and GeoPlatform, which demonstrates that DOT is the primary source for NAD data and metadata in support of FAIR principles.

The Address Theme Lead Covered Agencies shall continue publishing the existing NAD data layer and web feature service. Additionally, the theme will continue sharing the data layer to the GeoPlatform Address Community group and maintain the item ID as a persistent attribute.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to address access to NGDA datasets through the GeoPlatform to support the theme include:

- Reviewing and applying good practices for authoritative data providers as appropriate (e.g., title naming convention, thumbnail).
- Continuing to provide the existing NAD data layer for download from DOT’s NAD download web page: <https://www.transportation.gov/gis/national-address-database/national-address-database-nad-disclaimer>.
- Developing a method to provide download options for subsets of the NAD to reduce the download burden for those that only need certain geographic areas.

### II.F. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(v) – Coordinate with the GeoPlatform

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to coordinate with the GeoPlatform as part of administering the NGDA data theme.

#### **GDA Reference**

*(b) Lead covered agencies*

*(3) Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

*(E) as part of administering the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme—*

*(v) coordinate with the GeoPlatform;*

### II.F.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(v) – Coordinate with the GeoPlatform

The Lead Covered Agencies shall coordinate with the GeoPlatform to transition all metadata for Address Theme NGDA datasets (i.e., the NAD) and interactive map resources to the new Address Theme Community Hub site.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to coordinate with the GeoPlatform include:

- Participating as Site Managers and Dataset Managers in GeoPlatform briefings, seminars, and webinars to continue to modernize these Hub sites, utilize new functionalities, and update technical guidance where necessary.
- Maintaining the following online resources to improve users’ experiences to find, access, and publish federal data using best practices:
  - The Address Theme NGDA Portfolio with NGDA datasets listed by NGDAID, NGDA Title, Data.gov link, GeoPlatform.gov link, Department and Agency.

- o Featured NGDA and NGDA Applications (e.g., web map applications and story maps).
- o Contributor Data and Applications (e.g., applications derived from DOT NGDA datasets (i.e., the NAD)).
- o Updated content on the Address Subcommittee and its Working Groups, including meeting notes, Standards in Use, FGDC Lead Covered Agency Theme Annual Reports, and the Address Theme Strategic Plan.

#### II.F.ii. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(v) – Improve the User Experience with the GeoPlatform

The Address Theme shall improve the user experience through the development of new Theme hub site content and improved access to NGDA datasets through establishing the Community Hub site as the single front-door to theme information. This includes simplifying maintenance and consolidating information for end users through migrating content from DOT web pages (<https://www.transportation.gov/gis/national-address-database>) to Address theme community pages (<https://ngda-address-geoplatform.hub.arcgis.com/>), including redirecting the existing DOT URL to prevent page breaks.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to improve the online user experience include:

- Improving the user experience with new and updated Theme hub site content.
- Coordinating with the NGDA Team ([NGDATeam@fgdc.gov](mailto:NGDATeam@fgdc.gov)) to develop a successful metadata harvesting workflow and reduce the frequency of 404 Errors relating to Address Theme NGDA datasets (i.e., NAD) on the GeoPlatform.
- Coordinating with the GeoPlatform Team ([servicedesk@geoplatform.gov](mailto:servicedesk@geoplatform.gov)) to reduce the monthly/yearly number of service tickets related to accessibility (FAIR compliance) failures for Address Theme NGDA datasets on the GeoPlatform.

#### II.G. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(vi) – Publish Proven Geospatial Practices

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to identify and publish proven practices for the use and application of geospatial data of the LCA as part of administering the NGDA data theme.

##### **GDA Reference**

**(b)** Lead covered agencies

**(3)** Specific responsibilities

To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—

**(E)** as part of administering the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme—

**(vi)** identify and publish proven practices for the use and application of geospatial data of the lead covered agency.

#### II.G.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(E)(vi) – Publish Proven Geospatial Practices

The DOT and Census shall document how proven practices for the use and application of the theme’s geospatial data are published on [transportation.gov/gis/national-address-database](https://www.transportation.gov/gis/national-address-database), the home page for the NAD, and on the Address Theme’s Community Hub site.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to publish proven geospatial practices include:

- Continuing publication of the NAD Schema and NAD ESRI Geodatabase template on the existing [transportation.gov/gis/national-address-database](https://transportation.gov/gis/national-address-database) site.
- Adding the NAD Schema and a link to the NAD Geodatabase template to the Address Theme's Community Hub site.
- Adding a link to the NAD web services.
- Adding a link to the NAD Story Map to the Address Theme's Community Hub site.
- Completing the Federal Address Workflow Chart and companion textual description document.
- Adding key reports, such as the 2017 Federal Address Data Users Workshop Report and the Puerto Rico Address Data Working Group Reports, among others, to the Address Theme's Community Hub site.
- Adding key presentations on the FGDC Address Theme and NAD to the Address Theme's Community Hub site.
- Adding partner address data processing scripts for the NAD to the Address Theme's Community Hub site.

### III. Goal: 2805(b)(3)(A), (b)(3)(B)(iv) – Assess Metadata and Data Standards

To maximize the utility of the theme, the GDA requires lead covered agencies to identify needs related to the following three items: data standards for geospatial data within the NGDA data theme, metadata standards for geospatial data within the NGDA data theme, and access to NGDA data and metadata through the GeoPlatform.

#### III.A. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iv) – Metadata Standards

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to identify needs related to standards, metadata for geospatial data within the NGDA data theme, and the GeoPlatform to ensure that the NGDA are Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR).

##### GDA Reference

*(b) Lead covered agencies*

*(3) Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

*(B) provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, which shall—*

*(iv) identify needs relating to standards, metadata for geospatial data within the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, and the GeoPlatform;*

##### III.A.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iv) – Metadata Standards

The Address Theme Lead Covered Agencies shall document the use of metadata standards for FGDC endorsement consideration. Additionally, the theme will identify address community needs related to metadata standards and the GeoPlatform.

Other FY25-27 actions to document the theme’s use of metadata standards for FGDC endorsement include:

- Updating the current inventory of metadata standards in use by the DOT and Census on the Theme Community hub site from ISO, OGC, and FGDC, and maintaining the annual update of the National Baseline Standards Inventory (see **Appendix C: Standards in Use by the Address Theme NGDA Datasets**).
- Participating in the FGDC’s interagency task teams to establish a workflow for the FGDC’s endorsement of metadata standards.
- Utilizing and further expanding metadata standards expertise within the DOT, Census, and the FGDC NGDA Theme Community.

## II.A.ii. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iv) – Adopt revisions to FGDC Technical Guidance Documents

The DOT and Census shall provide feedback on any updates of the *FGDC Technical Guidance: Data.gov and The GeoPlatform Metadata Recommendations - including Guidelines for National Geospatial Data Assets (NGDA)* document for metadata to incorporate recommendations from the FAIRness project.

Other FY25-27 actions to document the theme’s use of metadata standards for FGDC endorsement include:

- Adopting FAIR principles and changes to the quarterly metadata harvesting process as recommended by the FGDC, Chief Data Officers Council, and the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (i.e., GeoPlatform benchmarks described earlier in II.E above).
- Documenting transition to new metadata standards within agencies to follow new recommendations.

## III.A.iii. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(B)(iv) – Implement FGDC endorsed metadata standards or voluntary consensus standards consistent with OMB Circular A-119

The DOT and Census shall document compliance with FGDC endorsed metadata standards in annual GDA reporting, National Baseline Standards Inventory (NBSI) updates, and internal agency reporting.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to implement FGDC endorsed metadata standards or voluntary consensus standards consistent with OMB Circular A-119 include:

- Documenting the transition to metadata production workflows to comply with ISO 19115-1 and ISO 19115-3 metadata standards in an agency roadmap.
- Adopting DCAT 3.0 U.S. Profile for compliance to FAIR Principles following an FGDC recommendation.
- Following the prescribed workflow to propose and adopt metadata standards consistent with FGDC recommendations and OMB Circular A-119.
- Renewing licensed subscriptions as necessary for metadata standards between agencies and the licensing body (e.g., American National Standards Institute (ANSI)).

## III.B. Objective: 2805(b)(3)(A)(i); (ii); (iii) – Data Standards

The GDA requires lead covered agencies to develop a plan to originate and implement needed standards consistent with relevant community and international practices in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A–119, or any successor thereto.

### **GDA Reference**

**(b)** *Lead covered agencies*

**(3)** *Specific responsibilities*

*To assist in fulfilling the responsibilities under paragraph (2) with respect to a National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, the lead covered agencies shall—*

**(A)** *provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of geospatial data standards for the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, with a particular emphasis on a data content standard for the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme, including by—*

**(i)** *assessing existing standards;*



- (ii) identifying anticipated or needed data standards; and*
- (iii) developing a plan to originate and implement needed standards with relevant community and international practices—*

### **NGDA Baseline Standards Inventory**

In 2021, the lead covered agencies participated in an FGDC-conducted NGDA standards inventory. This inventory was the initial action to identify the standards currently in use, or that needed to be removed or replaced, in the Committee’s list of previously endorsed standards. The inventory will be used to inform the changes required in the FGDC-approved standards list once the Committee implements a process to “establish and maintain geospatial data standards” in accordance with the GDA. The standards inventory results and background information are available on the GeoPlatform NGDA Portfolio Standards.<sup>10</sup>

#### III.B.i. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(A)(i); (ii); (iii) – Data Standards

The Census and DOT shall document the theme’s use of data content and data quality standards for FGDC endorsement, how the Theme provides leadership and facilitates the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the NGDA data theme, and how needs are identified related to data standards and the GeoPlatform.

Other FY25-27 actions to document the theme’s use of data content and data quality standards for FGDC endorsement include:

- Updating the current inventory of data content and data quality standards in use by the Census and DOT on the Address Theme Community hub site from ISO, OGC, and FGDC, and maintaining the annual update of the NBSI (see **Appendix C: Standards in Use by the Address Theme NGDA Datasets**).
- Recommending data content and/or data quality standards associated with existing or future NGDA datasets in the Address Theme’s portfolio for endorsement by the FGDC, once the process for doing so has been defined and finalized.
- Participating in the FGDC’s interagency task teams, and individual agency’s internal standards and/or advisory group’s business activities to establish a workflow for the FGDC’s endorsement of metadata standards.
- Establishing data content and data quality standards expertise within the Census, DOT, and the FGDC NGDA Theme Community.
- Participating in the FGDC Standards Working Groups when applicable.

#### III.B.ii. Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(A)(i); (ii); (iii) – Review and Update FGDC Data Content and Data Quality Standards in Use

The Theme membership, through the FGDC Address Subcommittee, shall review and update the following FGDC standards:

- U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee. United States Thoroughfare, Landmark, and Postal Address Data Standard. FGDC-STD-016-2011.

---

<sup>10</sup> <https://ngda-portfolio-community-geoplatform.hub.arcgis.com/pages/standards>

III.B.iii Action(s) to Meet Objective: 2805(b)(3)(A)(i); (ii); (iii) – Implement FGDC endorsed data content and data quality standards or voluntary consensus standards consistent with OMB Circular A-119

The Census and DOT shall document compliance to FGDC endorsed data content and data quality standards in annual GDA reporting, National Baseline Standards Inventory (NBSI), and internal agency reporting.

Other FY25-FY27 actions to implement FGDC endorsed data content and data quality standards or voluntary consensus standards consistent with OMB Circular A-119 (when it is published) include:

- Following the prescribed workflow to propose, adopt, and sunset data content and data quality standards consistent with FGDC recommendations and OMB Circular A-119.
- Renewing licensed subscriptions as necessary for data content and data quality standards between agencies and the licensing body (e.g., American National Standards Institute (ANSI)).
- Maintaining the Standards Connect Portal with licensed ISO data content and data quality standards for enterprise use (Census only).

## Appendix A: NGDA Data Themes (GDA Sec 2805) and NSDI Strategic Plan Crosswalk

The following is a crosswalk of National Geospatial Data Asset Data Themes (GDA Sec 2805) referenced within this Plan as the GDA relates to the NSDI Strategic Plan.

Goal	GDA Section	NSDI	GDA
I.	2805(b)(3)(E)	1.3, 2.1, 4.1	Goal: Administration of the Theme
I.A.	2805(b)(3)(E)(i)		Objective: Point of Contact
I.B.	2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(I)	2.1, 4.1	Objective: Annual Reporting
I.C.	2805(b)(3)(E)(ii)(II)	2.1, 4.1	Objective: Annual Report Comments
II.	2805(b)(3)(B)	2.1-2.4, 3.1-3.4	Goal: Provide leadership and facilitate the development and implementation of a plan for nationwide population of the National Geospatial Data Asset data theme
II.A.	2805(b)(3)(B)(i)	4.1-4.5	Objective: Partnerships
II.B.	2805(b)(3)(B)(ii), 2805(b)(3)(D)	2.4 3.1, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2	Objective: User Needs
II.C.	2805(b)(3)(B)(iii)	4.4	Objective: Human and Financial Resources
II.D.	2805(b)(3)(E)(iii)	2.4, 3.1-3.4	Objective: – Publish Maps or Comparable Graphics Online
II.E.	2805(b)(3)(E)(iv)	2.4, 3.1-3.4	Objective: Provide Access to NGDA Through the GeoPlatform
II.F.	2805(b)(3)(E)(v)	3.1	Objective: Coordinate with the GeoPlatform
II.G.	2805(b)(3)(E)(vi)	2.4	Objective: Publish Proven Geospatial Practices
III.	2805(b)(3)(A), (b)(3)(B)(iv)	3.4, 4.5	Goal: Data and Metadata Standards
III.A.	2805(b)(3)(B)(iv)	3.4, 4.5	Objective: Metadata Standards
III.B.	2805(b)(3)(A)(i)-(iii)	3.4, 4.5	Objective: Plan for Standards

## Appendix B: Human and Financial Resources Needs to Support the NGDA Themes

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Staff Role/Estimate</b>	<b>Theme Role</b>
Census Bureau	NGDA Co-Theme Lead	NGDA Theme Community
Department of Transportation	NGDA Co-Theme Lead	NGDA Theme Community
Census Bureau	FGDC Subcommittee Co-Chair	NGDA Theme Community
Department of Transportation	FGDC Subcommittee Co-Chair	NGDA Theme Community
Census Bureau	FGDC Subcommittee Coordinator	NGDA Theme Community
Department of Transportation	NGDA Dataset Manager	NGDA Theme Community
Department of Transportation	NGDA Metadata Manager	NGDA Theme Community
Department of Transportation	Theme Specialists and Producers	Program Specialists, SMEs, Coordinators, Contractors
Census Bureau	Theme Specialists and Producers	Program Specialists, SMEs, Contractors, Contractors
Department of Transportation	IT Staff	Information Technology Staff
Department of Transportation	IT Support/Shared Services (DOT harvest point 1 NGDA datasets to Data.gov)	NGDA Harvest
Census Bureau	Theme Community Hub Sites	Hub site maintainer
Department of Transportation	GeoPlatform Support	NGDA Access (FAIR)
Census Bureau	GeoPlatform Support (Enterprise)	Agency Shared Cost agreement
Department of Transportation	GeoPlatform Support (Enterprise)	Agency Shared Cost agreement

## Appendix C: Standards in Use by the Address Theme NGDA Datasets

This table represents the officially inventoried standards in use by the FGDC Address Theme as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Some updates to this table are currently under consideration, to be finalized by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

ngdaID	ngdaTitle	Standard	Category	Subcategory
196	National Address Database (NAD)	USPS Publication 28 Appendix C1	Data	Content
196	National Address Database (NAD)	INCITS 446:2008 - Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)	Data	Content
196	National Address Database (NAD)	National Standard Codes (ANSI INCITS 31-2009), Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) - Counties/County Equivalents	Data	Attribute
196	National Address Database (NAD)	National Standard Codes (ANSI INCITS 38-2009), Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) – States/State Equivalents	Data	Attribute
196	National Address Database (NAD)	NENA Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) United States Civic Location Data Exchange Format (CLDXF) Standard; NENA-STA-004.1.1-2014	Data	Exchange
196	National Address Database (NAD)	Standard for a U.S. National Grid, FGDC-STD-011-2001	Data	Attribute
196	National Address Database (NAD)	United States Thoroughfare, Landmark, and Postal Address Data Standard FGDC-STD-016-2011 Part 1 Introduction	Data	Content
196	National Address Database (NAD)	United States Thoroughfare, Landmark, and Postal Address Data Standard FGDC-STD-016-2011 Part 2: Address Data Content	Data	Content
196	National Address Database (NAD)	United States Thoroughfare, Landmark, and Postal Address Data Standard FGDC-STD-016-2011 Part 6: Reference Standards and Specifications	Data	Content

ngdaID	ngdaTitle	Standard	Category	Subcategory
196	National Address Database (NAD)	NENA Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) United States Civic Location Data Exchange Format (CLDXF) Standard; NENA-STA-004.1.1-2014	Data	Structure
196	National Address Database (NAD)	NAD Schema v2	Data	Structure-Model/Schema/ Other
196	National Address Database (NAD)		Data	Structure-Accuracy
196	National Address Database (NAD)	NENA Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) United States Civic Location Data Exchange Format (CLDXF) Standard; NENA-STA-004.1.1-2014	Data	Attribute
196	National Address Database (NAD)	USPS Publication 28 Appendix C1	Data	Attribute
196	National Address Database (NAD)	NAD Schema v2 - Domains	Data	Attribute-Dictionary/System
196	National Address Database (NAD)		Data	Attribute-Accuracy
196	National Address Database (NAD)		Data	Quality Control
196	National Address Database (NAD)		Data	Archive
196	National Address Database (NAD)	File Geodatabase (GDB)	Data	Exchange-PROP
196	National Address Database (NAD)		Data	Service
196	National Address Database (NAD)	INCITS/ISO 19115:2003 [R2008] ISO 19115:2003 w/ ISO 19115 Cor. 1:2006 Geographic information - Metadata + Corrigendum 1	Metadata	Content
196	National Address Database (NAD)		Metadata	Exchange