



**Architecture & Technology  
Working Group (ATWG)  
Tuesday, August 18, 2016  
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Eastern**

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**Location: USGS National Center  
Room 2A316  
12201 Sunrise Valley Dr  
Reston, VA 20192**

**Please note that times indicated on  
the agenda are approximate and may  
vary based on discussion.**

**To join the Webinar via WebEx:**

Navigate to the following:  
<https://usgs.webex.com/usgs/j.php?MTID=m044ed8ba1a703b2a2eaf2b783e89eb79>

**Audio Conference Instructions:**

Dial Toll free: (855) 547-8255  
Dial Local: (703) 648-4848  
Code: 97970368

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**AGENDA**

10:00 – 10:05	<b>Welcome</b>	<i>William Mullen, DOI</i>
10:05 – 10:10	<b>Recommendations &amp; Charter Status</b>	<i>William Mullen, DOI</i>
10:10 – 10:30	<b>New Requests for Consideration</b>	<i>Rob Dollison, USGS</i>
10:30 – 10:45	<b>GeoPlatform Marking Efforts</b>	<i>Tod Dabolt, DOI</i>
10:45 – 10:55	<b>GeoPlatform Workshop</b>	<i>William Mullen, DOI</i>
10:55 – 11:00	<b>Action Item Review</b>	<i>Tom Myers, FGDC Support</i>
11:00	<b>Adjourn</b>	

# ARCHITECTURE & TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP

## MEETING MINUTES FROM THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

**MEETING MANAGER:** Bill Mullen, DOI\*

**MEETING HOST:** USGS

**RECORDER:** Tom Myers, FGDC Support

**GUESTS:**

Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS, In-Person

Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS, In-Person

Gary Latzke, DOI/USGS, In-Person

Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS, Phone\*

Ted Payne, USDA, Phone\*

Jay Spurlin, DOC/CENSUS, Phone\*

Randy Warren, DOC/NOAA, Phone\*

Jen Carlino, DOI/USGS, Phone

Jim Irvine, FGDC Support, Phone

\* indicates ATWG member

***UPCOMING EVENTS***  
**Geospatial Platform Workshop**  
**December 7 & 8**  
**South Interior Building (SIB) Auditorium**

**NEXT WG MEETING:**  
**September 8, 9:30 – 10:30 EST**  
**Main Interior Building (MIB)**

### Status of Actions or in-work items directly impacting the ATWG

#### Action Items

- ATWG Members to review recent request entries in the wiki and provide feedback:
  - RQ5: [Viewer - Services Search](#)
  - RQ6: [Volunteer Geographic Information Application](#)
  - RQ7: [X-Agency Map Sharing](#)
- ATWG Members to identify opportunities for marketing GeoPlatform within their respective organizations.

<b>Item:</b>	Recommendations & Charter Status
<b>Lead:</b>	Bill Mullen, DOI
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Update the ATWG on current status of formal Recommendations and Charter.
<b>Additional Participants:</b>	
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS</u>: The Charter vote will take place in August. After that, it will go to the Steering Committee for final approval. We are holding off sending recommendations to FGDC until the Charter is approved, but we have sent input to the GeoPlatform Managing Partner in the interim. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Moving forward, if a request is a GeoPlatform concern, we will send to the Managing Partner and copy the FGDC. If it's an FGDC issue, we'll do the opposite.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Item:</b>	New Requests for Consideration
<b>Lead:</b>	Rob Dollison, USGS
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Provide context and generate discussion for recent Request entries.
<b>Additional Participants:</b>	Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS; Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS; Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS; Gary Latzke, DOI/USGS; Jay Spurlin, DOC/CENSUS; Ted Payne, USDA; Randy Warren, DOC/NOAA
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS</u>: Rob entered several requests into the wiki. We would like everyone to take a look and provide comments.</li> <li>• <u>Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS</u>: Request 6 (Volunteer Geographic Information (VGI) Application), proposes the creation of an application and associated cloud services that could be customized by Agencies to gather data from the public. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ From a quality control perspective, VGI can be useful to improve datasets. However, there are challenges. A volunteer might provide a new location for a place. We can capture that edit, but what we'd like to do is to transmit that information to the authoritative source. Ideally, the authoritative sources would validate the VGI.</li> <li>○ Is there a way to facilitate the process? If an edit is proposed to one Agency, how would it be shared to others? Is this something the ATWG could help with? VGI as a shared service or application could facilitate this information sharing, but I'm not sure what this collaboration area looks like (e.g. communities, GitHub).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS</u>: Does this request resonate with other Agency representatives on the phone? This is something that we've discussed before. Would your agency benefit?</li> </ul>

- Jay Spurlin, DOC/CENSUS: I'm not sure Census would use VGI, but may be interested in a feedback mechanism.
- Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS: So a tipping mechanism? An indicator that someone should take a look at that object?
  - Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS: Almost like an RSS feed.
- Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS: This ties back into the Mobile Observation Standard.
- Ted Payne, USDA: USGS maintains continuously updated road data. That should be communicated to a broader community. There are a number of entities within USDA that do customized apps. The solution could be something to streamline customizations with input from a larger body of geospatial developers.
- Randy Warren, DOC/NOAA: With regards to crowdsourcing, NOAA creates official storm reports using crowdsourced data.
- Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS: How would you drive usage?
  - Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS: That will be a challenge. Different agencies would have different guidelines and best practices. This request is about communicating feedback to the appropriate source. Once the information gets to the source, organization-specific procedures would apply.
  - Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS: Agree. We wouldn't want to get involved with individual agency workflows.
- Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS: One bureaucratic hurdle with VGI is dealing with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). We are able to accept unstructured comments, but if we move to a structured format, there may be PRA requirements.
  - Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS: Rob, did we encounter PRA requirements with the National Map?
    - Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS: No.
- Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS: There are likely some core services that we can provide at a macro level. Individual dataset managers would take it from there.
- Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS: Request 7 (X-Agency Map Sharing) explores the GeoPlatform's role in facilitating cross-agency web map sharing.
  - From a technical perspective, we have the capability. Internal objects are supported within groups. Group admins can invite individuals to a group.
  - Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS: We'd need to go in this direction anyway to make some of the community functionality work.
  - Gary Latzke, DOI/USGS: I spoke with Gary Peters about this. He was open to AGOL-based solutions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS</u>: From a technology standpoint, we could meet those requirements through AGOL. Do we duplicate that functionality on the open-source side as well? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Gary Latzke, DOI/USGS</u>: If it can be addressed with AGOL, we should solve it there.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS</u>: I propose a simple technical solution. Group management is needed for more than map sharing. It also applies to communities. We could create a class of map that doesn't show up in the map gallery, but only shows up on community pages. When communities are moved to WordPress, they will become more flexible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS</u>: I like the idea of managing at the community level.</li> <li>○ <u>Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS</u>: From an NGA perspective, this is something that they would want.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS</u>: Request 5 (Viewer – Services Search) proposes expanding map viewer services to search all services registered in the catalog. We spoke about this last meeting. The plan is for everything that's in the catalog as a service to be available in the viewer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS</u>: In the interim, if there are services that ATWG members want to make sure are available, let us know.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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<b>Item:</b>	GeoPlatform Marketing Efforts; GeoPlatform Workshop
<b>Lead:</b>	Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS; Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Identify opportunities for marketing GeoPlatform.gov.
<b>Additional Participants:</b>	Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS; Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS; Ted Payne, USDA; Gary Latzke, DOI/USGS
<b>Discussion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS</u>: As the Platform gets more capabilities, what is the best way to make people aware of the content and bolster usage?</li> <li>• <u>Tod Dabolt, DOI/IOS</u>: The good news, compared to a year ago, is that users are coming to the Platform and staying longer. The bounce rate has decreased. The average use time, in some months, was 20 minutes. The numbers of returning visitors is increasing. The overall numbers of visitors is very low. We need help from participating partners to get the word out.</li> <li>• <u>Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS</u>: It's a good time to start the push. The FGDC effort to register NGDAs should result in more usable information. Once the search is released, it will bring more value to the Platform.</li> <li>• <u>Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS</u>: From an ATWG perspective, are there any ideas or suggestions for marketing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS</u>: Showcases for events, possibly in parallel with dataset and application releases.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Ted Payne, USDA: USDA is hosting a GIS Day. We are focusing on collaboration with other federal agencies. We hope to identify other opportunities for coordination. This is an opportunity for GeoPlatform marking.
  - Gary Latzke, DOI/USGS: Rich Frazier has created a multimedia presentation on GeoPlatform. I'd like to see materials and guidance on communicating GeoPlatform capabilities, a resource center.
  - Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS: Randy used the GIS Working Group seminars to brief GeoPlatform. Ted did the same with USDA. We've talked about a central repository, may want to talk with PMO about getting some help. The wiki may be a place we can put this stuff.
  - Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS: We are hosting a Geospatial Platform Workshop December 5 - 6 at MIB. The event is sponsored by DOI, FGDC, and NGA. The purpose is to share the current implementation and capabilities as well as to discuss future developments. Would like to see ATWG participation to demonstrate to the community that we have an interest in their objectives. Remote participation is possible.
    - Rob Dollison, DOI/USGS: Will the GeoPlatform admins be available?
      - Bill Mullen, DOI/IOS: Yes. The developer will be present to answer questions.
    - Jerry Johnston, DOI/IOS: The hosting offering should be a topic.
- [Meeting ended abruptly due to USGS emergency drill]*

## LOOK AHEAD

<b>Next Meeting:</b>	September 8, 9:30-10:30 EST
<b>Meeting Focus:</b>	TBD
<b>Location:</b>	Main Interior Building (MIB) Room 7457