Louisiana Geographic Information Systems Council
Digital Data Committee
Meeting of March 18, 2021

1. Call to Order
Committee Chair Warren Kron (LMA) called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM. A quorum was present via Webex for the meeting. The meeting was held remotely pursuant to the waivers of viva voce mandates of LA R.S. 42:11 *et seq.*, contained in 2020 JBE 41.

2. Attendance
Committee Members Present:
> David Gisclair – Louisiana Senate (Senate)
> Warren Kron – Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA)
> Rachel Watson – Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (CRT)
>> *Note: Ms. Watson contacted member Kathrine Cargo, and received permission to serve as Ms. Cargo's proxy to obtain a quorum*

Others Present:
> Michael Bernard – Imperial Calcasieu Regional Planning & Development Commission (IMCAL)
> Phillip Breaux – LSU Center for Analytics & Research in Transportation Safety (CARTS)
> Lynn Dupont – Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts (PDD)
> Brad Mooney – Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF)
> John Sheehan – Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

3. Meeting Summary
Mr. Kron (LMA) asked members to review the minutes from the February 18, 2021 meeting. Michael Bernard (IMCAL) requested to make a few wording changes with regards to the Ookla® data, and the committee worked together to edit this section. On a motion by David Gisclair (Senate) with a second by Rachel Watson (CRT) the February minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

For the next part of the meeting, Mr. Kron (LMA) shared the latest version of the LSDI Land Cover Framework with the committee. Following the February meeting, Phillip Breaux (CARTS) provided additional information to populate many of the metadata rows. Mr. Breaux (CARTS) noted that some of the links in the Other Resources row could be moved into the Data Dictionary row. Mr. Kron (LMA) also noted there are a few other metadata cells with unverified information or blank. John Sheehan (DEQ) and Brad Mooney (LDWF) will review the land cover classification system table and provide comments. Mr. Kron (LMA) asked to pay special attention to the way the land cover classes were correlated to the Anderson classification system.

Prior to the meeting, Lynn Dupont (PDD) sent a first draft of the Land Use and Land Cover narrative for inclusion in the LSDI. David Gisclair (Senate) made minor edits to the draft and will provide those to Mr. Kron (LMA) to share through the Council's Google Drive account for all committee members to review. Ms. Dupont (PDD) provided a brief overview of the land use narrative which will eventually be incorporated into the LSDI. Although the focus of the narrative was on land use, it was necessary to include information about land cover for comparative purposes. Ms. Dupont (PDD) commented that because land use categories are specific to every region, it makes the most sense to write a narrative and provide an example of one land use dataset. Mr. Gisclair (Senate) agreed with this approach and welcomed the land use data. Ms. Dupont (PDD) explained that the Regional Planning

Commission (RPC) updates its land use data on a decennial basis following the Census because there is information for determining residential densities. Mr. Kron (LMA) noted that this source info should be included in the land use narrative. Ms. Dupont (PDD) offered to include the RPC land use data as an example for use in the LSDI.

Ms. Dupont (PDD) and Mr. Bernard (IMCAL) recently attended a meeting about the broadband initiative hosted by the consulting firm GeoTech. The demo included a web interface for accessing to broadband service data which will be accessible from all of the state's planning and development districts websites, and will be an instrumental planning tool for determining where broadband infrastructure is needed for residential or commercial developments. Mr. Bernard (IMCAL) noted that all current broadband data includes the upload and download speeds, but ping data is much more important because it provides an indication of the network's health. Mr. Bernard (IMCAL) also discussed a project his office is considering which will extrapolate information from the data and determine how likely it is for an area to have broadband service. He noted the necessity to learn more about the process of determining which areas do not have service, because there are many uncertainties and broad assumptions are being made using the data that is currently available. Ms. Dupont (PDD) stated that during the same demo a map displayed points on houses with no Internet service. She questioned this information asking whether it was verified, and the presenter's response was that broadband providers will assist the regional planning commissions with getting survey responses from the public for verification purposes. Ms. Dupont (PDD) noted that information collected from these surveys could be valuable when determining which grant applications are awarded. Ms. Dupont (PDD) further noted that the planning and development districts will be given full access to the survey data that is collected which will be aggregated to Census blocks as opposed to the fuzzy-location data that is made publicly accessible. Mr. Gisclair (Senate) and Mr. Breaux (CARTS) also participated in this discussion. Lastly, Ms. Dupont (PDD) said the next call was scheduled for April 1st with DOTD to discuss how to serve all of the broadband data through its GIS data portal.

Mr. Kron (LMA) asked the committee if its intent was to build a minimal schema for the broadband feature class. Both Ms. Dupont (PDD) and Mr. Gisclair (Senate) stated the layer is definitely included in the LSDI under section 2.4.8: Communications of the Infrastructure framework. Mr. Bernard (IMCAL) noted that upload speed, download speed, and accuracy of the geographic location would be minimal requirements for this data. Ms. Dupont (PDD) commented that the Council's best effort in this would be to assist DOTD with putting all of the various broadband data together for publishing.

4. Action Items
Mr. Kron (LMA) will work on the metadata for each land cover classification system and begin editing LSDI section 2.2 in Appendix 1. Also, Mr. Kron (LMA) will share the land use narrative through the Council's Google Drive account.

5. Next Meeting
Scheduled for Noon on Thursday, April 15, 2021 and the location will be determined later.

6. Adjourn
The meeting ended at 1:00 PM after the committee voted unanimously on a motion made by Mr. Gisclair (Senate) and seconded by Ms. Watson (CRT).