

# Emergency Preparedness Committee

FY2026/27 GAC Term Work Plan

Updated 02/2026 with Priority Project Survey Results

## **Committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s):**

Britta Maddox, Chair | [BMaddox@coonrapidsmn.gov](mailto:BMaddox@coonrapidsmn.gov)

Matt Goodman, Vice Chair | [Goodmanm@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:Goodmanm@stlouiscountymn.gov)

## **Active subgroups/workgroups leadership:**

- Critical Infrastructure Assessment Subgroup  
Stacey Stark, [slstark@d.umn.edu](mailto:slstark@d.umn.edu)  
Matt Goodman, [goodmanm@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:goodmanm@stlouiscountymn.gov)
- U.S. National Grid (USNG) Subgroup  
Associated Priority Project – USNG Map Availability  
Randy Knippel, [rdknippel@gmail.com](mailto:rdknippel@gmail.com)
- Education Workgroup  
Carla Coates, [carla.coates@state.mn.us](mailto:carla.coates@state.mn.us) or other HSEM representative
- Fire Tools Workgroup \*NEW\*  
Associated Priority Project – Options for a Fire Risk Assessment Tool  
Angela Contreras, [angela.contreras@state.mn.us](mailto:angela.contreras@state.mn.us)

## **Completed Priorities (from previous term):**

- Underground Utilities Mapping Project
- US National Grid

### **Full Committee Planned Activities:**

- Conduct at least three meetings of the full committee during each FY.
- Rick Schute appointed to serve as EPC liaison to the Metropolitan Emergency Managers Association (MEMA) by attending that association's monthly meetings.
- Matt Goodman appointed to serve as EPC liaison to the Association of Metro Area Emergency Managers (AMEM)
- Continue engaging and liaising with members of the emergency management and public safety community to increase awareness of GIS across public safety
- Assess EPC membership roster by establishing a process for opting in to the EPC as a Member or Observer – Completed Fall 2025 with the implementation of the committee survey on our website

### **Subgroup and Workgroup Priority Projects, Planned Activities and Deliverables:**

#### **Critical Infrastructure Assessment Subgroup – MnGAC PRIORITY**

- Conduct at least three meetings of the Project Team during each FY of the term.
- Explore long-term workflows to keep fire, law enforcement verified annually by MN counties.
- Work with the Data Endorsement Workgroup to test data in the endorsement process
- Work with the Contributing to Nationwide and Commercial Data Assets Workgroup to explore distribution of the MN C.I. data sets
- Participate in MnGeoCommons data collection conversations – and/or revise the collection currently on the MnGeo
- Update 1-page sheet for Critical Infrastructure Assessment WG
- Document a long-term workflow to maintain the critical infrastructure resource list on the MnGeo website.
- Entirely dependent on completion of work by the Data Endorsement Committee, complete the first statewide endorsed critical infrastructure data set.

#### **U.S. National Grid (USNG) Subgroup – MnGAC PRIORITY**

- Original priority work completed
- New priority project assigned as part of the priority project survey for FY26-27 – USNG Map Availability

- Coordinate with MnGeo to host and maintain USNG Maps

Randy's work with the US National Grid Institute will continue as will outreach efforts to find a new USNG Champion for the State of MN. Through USNGI, Randy plans to assist other government entities with publication of USNG maps for their areas of responsibility.

### **Education Workgroup**

- Revitalized after discussions between former chair Cory Richter and Carla Coates
- HSEM has a resource for coordinating a database of GIS individuals willing and able to assist during an activation of an EOC but was lacking documentation of necessary and preferred qualifications for said individuals. The EPC's Education Project Team had the qualification documentation and related resources but was lacking a platform by which to implement and maintain a list.
- Goals by the end of FY26 -
  - HSEM and Education team meet to discuss what each side brings to the table and to brainstorm how to implement it
  - **Deliverable** – platform with related necessary and preferred qualification guidelines available for users to sign-up as volunteer GIS resources during any EOC activation where GIS assistance is requested.
  - HSEM to present on their EMAC program at the August or November 2026 EPC meeting

### **Fire Tools Workgroup - NEW MnGAC Priority**

- FY26 - Workgroup charter will be written to formalize this group
- FY26 - Meeting cadence will be set along with list of deliverables and goals and how to assess completion of this priority project
- Minnesota State Fire Marshal's Office is taking the lead on this project

Date Approved by the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council: March 11, 2026