

AARC's Approach to Common Geospatial Data Coordination

This presentation will focus on the Alabama Association of Regional Councils (AARC) involvement in local/state government community development and planning needs as it pertains to GIS. The Alabama Association of Regional Councils is composed of 12 Regional Planning Councils (RPC) that frequently deal with multijurisdictional issues traversing city, town, county, and in some instances, state boundaries. To effectively and efficiently coordinate planning and community development needs across regions, the Association needs to collaborate commonly used data that have daily use and importance to RPC's. The AARC GIS Taskforce is working to consolidate the commonly used geospatial data in order to reduce cost, improve data standards, enhance data discovery and ensure data availability, supporting the National Spatial Data Infrastructure's (NSDI) framework approach. The Taskforce's focus is on building the Association's geospatial programs to include commonly identified framework themes to accommodate the planning and community development aspects. AARC is supportive of programs that coordinate and facilitate exchange of regional, local, and state data such as town and municipal limits, road center lines, and other framework data. Such coordination has been demonstrated by the AARC GIS Taskforce's recent cooperation with the Homeland Security Infrastructure Program (HSIP) to helping build critical infrastructure data for emergency preparedness and national geospatial data infrastructure development.

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