TEXAS GEOSPATIAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (TGLC)

CHARTER

October 2026

Purpose

The Texas Geospatial Leadership Committee (TGLC) serves as the primary advisory body to the Texas Geographic Information Office (TxGIO) on matters related to statewide geospatial strategy, governance, data, stewardship, technology, and interagency collaboration. The Committee promotes the effective use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and geospatial technologies across Texas state government and provides recommendations that advance statewide geospatial priorities and initiatives.

Vision Statement

To advance a coordinated, innovative, and sustainable geospatial ecosystem that enables Texas state government to make informed decisions, improve public services, strengthen emergency preparedness, and enhance stewardship of statewide resources through the effective use of geospatial information and technology.

Mission Statement

The Texas Geospatial Leadership Committee serves as the statewide forum for collaboration among Texas state agencies to promote geospatial data sharing, strategic planning, governance, and technology innovation. The Committee provides advisory recommendations to the Texas Geographic Information Office to support the development and implementation of a comprehensive statewide geospatial strategy.

Charter Authority

This Charter establishes the purpose, governance structure, membership requirements, responsibilities, and operating procedures of the Texas Geospatial Leadership Committee (TGLC). The

Committee operates under the guidance of the Texas Geographic Information Office (TxGIO), a division of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and serves as a statewide advisory committee for geospatial matters affecting Texas state agencies.

Committee Structure

Membership

Committee members shall be employees of Texas state agencies who are recognized leaders in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and who represent agencies with established geospatial programs.

Each participating agency shall designate one official voting member. Voting members should possess sufficient authority and expertise to represent the interests of their agency and participate in strategic discussions and recommendations on statewide geospatial matters.

The Committee shall be led by:

- The Texas Geographic Information Officer (State GIO), who shall serve as Chair.
- A Co-Chair selected by Committee recommendation and appointed by the Chair.

The Co-Chair shall serve a two-year term and may be reappointed.

Voting members are expected to participate regularly in Committee meetings, either in person or virtually. Members unable to attend shall notify the Chair at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance whenever possible and may designate an alternate representative.

An alternate representative may exercise voting privileges when authorized in writing by the designated voting member.

The Chair may review voting membership status in instances of repeated unexcused absences.

Non-Voting Participants

State agency personnel who are not designated voting members are encouraged to attend meetings and contribute subject matter expertise.

Non-voting participants may engage in discussion at the discretion of the Chair but shall not participate in formal votes.

Membership Changes

Participating agencies may change their designated representative at any time by providing written notification to the Chair.

Replacement representatives shall possess sufficient authority and expertise to represent their agency and participate effectively in Committee activities.

Roles and Responsibilities

Committee Responsibilities

The Committee shall:

- Advise TxGIO on statewide geospatial strategy, policy, and priorities.
- Support the development and stewardship of authoritative statewide geospatial data assets.
- Promote collaboration and information sharing among state agencies.
- Identify opportunities for shared geospatial services, investments, and partnerships.
- Evaluate emerging geospatial technologies, standards, and best practices.
- Recommend priorities for statewide geospatial initiatives and projects.
- Support geospatial governance efforts across Texas state government.
- Assist in the development of statewide geospatial reports, assessments, and strategic plans.
- Encourage the adoption of standards that improve interoperability, data quality, and operational efficiency.
- Support preparation of the State Geographic Information Officer's report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House.

Chair Responsibilities

The Chair shall:

- Provide leadership for the Committee.
- Establish meeting schedules and agendas.
- Preside over all Committee meetings.
- Ensure adherence to the Charter and governance procedures.
- Represent Committee recommendations to TxGIO leadership.
- Facilitate consensus-building among members.
- Appoint the Co-Chair based upon Committee recommendation.

Co-Chair Responsibilities

The Co-Chair shall:

- Support the Chair in conducting Committee business.
- Assist with meeting planning, agenda development, and follow-up activities.
- Coordinate special initiatives or workgroups as requested.
- Serve in the Chair's absence when delegated authority to do so.

Member Responsibilities

Committee members shall:

- Attend and actively participate in Committee meetings and activities.
- Review meeting materials in advance.
- Represent the interests and perspectives of their agencies.
- Designate qualified alternate representatives when necessary.
- Support consensus-based decision making.
- Promote statewide collaboration and information sharing.
- Complete agreed-upon assignments and action items.
- Maintain professional conduct and work in good faith toward solutions that benefit the State of Texas.

Meetings

Meeting Schedule

The Committee shall meet at least quarterly and may meet more frequently as determined by the Chair.

Special meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the Chair to address emerging priorities or time-sensitive issues.

Agenda items may be submitted by Committee members to the Chair or Co-Chair for consideration.

Meeting Procedures

- Meeting agendas and supporting materials should be distributed in advance whenever practicable.
- Meetings may be conducted in person, virtually, or using a hybrid format. Note: In person participation is highly recommended.
- Members are expected to review distributed materials prior to meetings.
- Meeting summaries, action items, and decisions shall be documented and distributed following meetings.

- Official records of Committee proceedings shall be maintained and distributed by TxGIO.

Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of designated voting member agencies.

No formal recommendation, vote, Charter amendment, or other official action may be approved without a quorum present.

Members participating in person or through approved virtual meeting technology shall be counted toward quorum.

Decision Making

The Committee shall strive to achieve consensus whenever possible.

Consensus is defined as broad agreement among participating members after reasonable discussion and consideration of differing viewpoints.

When consensus cannot be achieved, the Chair may call for a vote. Each participating agency shall have one vote.

Unless otherwise specified, recommendations shall be approved by a simple majority of voting members present, provided a quorum exists.

Consensus-Based Governance

The Committee is committed to collaborative decision-making practices that encourage broad participation and consideration of diverse perspectives.

Guiding principles include:

- Focus on solutions that best serve statewide interests.
- Encourage open and respectful dialogue.
- Ensure all viewpoints are heard and considered.
- Seek to understand underlying interests and concerns.
- Encourage members to propose alternatives when raising objections.
- Promote transparency, trust, and collaboration.
- Work in good faith toward outcomes that benefit Texas state government as a whole.

Conflict of Interest

Committee members shall conduct Committee business in a manner that promotes impartiality, transparency, and public trust.

Members shall disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest related to matters under Committee consideration, including:

- Contracting opportunities.
- Procurement activities.
- Financial interests.
- Vendor relationships.
- Organizational interests that could influence a member's judgment.

Upon disclosure of a conflict, the Chair may require the affected member to abstain from discussion, recommendations, voting, or other actions related to the matter.

Conflict disclosures shall be documented in meeting records when appropriate.

Communication and Reporting

Meeting summaries, decisions, recommendations, action items, and responsible parties shall be documented following Committee meetings.

Meetings may be recorded to support accurate documentation and recordkeeping.

The Committee may publish reports, recommendations, guidance documents, and other materials supporting statewide geospatial initiatives.

Charter Maintenance and Amendments

This Charter shall be reviewed at least biennially, or more frequently as needed, to ensure continued alignment with statewide geospatial priorities.

Proposed amendments may be submitted by any voting member.

Charter amendments shall require approval by a majority vote of designated voting members, provided a quorum is present.

The Chair and Co-Chair shall maintain the official Charter and ensure that the current version is available through TxGIO.

Appendix A – Membership Roster

(Need to add individual names and titles)

- Commission on State Emergency Communications
- Public Utility Commission of Texas
- Railroad Commission of Texas
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Division of Emergency Management
- Texas General Land Office
- Texas Health and Human Services
- Texas Historical Commission
- Texas Military Department
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Water Development Board