

LION: OCTOBER 17, 2024

Legislative Technology Services Bureau (LTSB)

- Topological Analysis on Municipal Wards Data
- BAS January 2025 Collection
- Minor improvements to BAS Tool
- Redistricting data program will be starting in about a year.
- Asking for feedback to see if people would like us to do a BAS Tool webinar.

Topological Analysis on Municipal Wards Data

We are writing to inform you that we have completed a topological analysis of the July 2024 municipal ward data submitted through the LTSB GeoData Collector. As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance geographic data quality, we would like to share the results of this analysis with you.

The topological analysis was conducted in two parts: (1) identifying gaps and overlaps within your county and (2) those along county boundaries. The gaps and overlaps within your county are attached. To view the gaps and overlaps along your county boundary, as well as a statewide LTSB topologically corrected ward layer, you may find them here

While no immediate action is required, ensuring that municipal wards are topologically accurate is crucial for several important reasons. Municipal wards are directly relayed to the Wisconsin Elections Commission for incorporation into the state election administration systems. Additionally, these wards form the foundation for creating the statewide municipal boundary layer and county supervisory district layers. These boundaries are submitted to the U.S. Census to be integrated into federal geographic datasets, including the U.S. Census TIGER blocks. The most recent statewide layers are available on the LTSB HUB page, with historical statewide layers accessible on the GeoData Wisconsin site.

We understand that resolving all topology errors may require consideration of other geographic factors. If you need resources or guidance for reviewing and correcting these issues, we have provided the following links:

Topological Analysis Resources

Topology in ArcMap Demo

Topology in ArcGIS Pro Demo

Furthermore, we would like to inform you that the U.S. Census 2030 Redistricting Data Program has been officially announced. You can find more information and a preliminary timeline for the program's various phases here. We will continue to reach out as we approach these dates and provide support throughout the redistricting data program.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Department of Administration (DOA); Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP)

Recording levels

- Levels remain at historic lows, 734,083 documents recorded statewide in State FY 2024, which is below the historic low of 770,705 set in FY2023.
- Unless document recordings pick up, Strategic Initiative Grants likely to remain around \$10-20k.

Grants

- 2025 Grant Applications due Dec. 31, 2024.

3DEP lidar grants

- Since Jim Giglierano's retirement, Peter has taken responsibility at DOA 3DEP lidar grants. Currently waiting for notification of approval/denial of 2025 grant application for Menominee, Forest, and Outagamie counties. SEWRPC submitted a grant application separately and not with DOA. We hope both get funded.

Land Information Plans - Uniform Instructions

- Final instructions were sent in March.
- A comprehensive, complete draft of your county plan was due by September 30, 2024.
- Currently reviewing drafts, and on schedule to have reviews back to counties within a month of draft plan submittal.
- As with the last update, peer review and comments will be encouraged, but voluntary and non-binding.
- Final plans with county land info council approval due by December 31st, 2024.

Act 235

- It is looking like only names of judicial officers and their family members will need to be shielded/removed on land records websites and not addresses.
- We are hoping that the process for name opt-out in [757.07\(4m\)](#) can be equivalent to submittal of the written request for protection of personal information under [757.07\(4\)](#).

WSRS2022/NATRF2022

New article by Howard Veregin (SCO)

<https://www.sco.wisc.edu/2024/10/10/federal-register-notice-announces-new-timeline-for-nsrcs-modernization/>

Resources

<https://www.sco.wisc.edu/community/wsrs2022/>

Act 235 - Judicial Privacy Law - Proposed Amendments

LION Meeting October 17th, 2024

WLIA Technical Committee - Judicial Privacy Task Force and PRIA Local, working with a number of other associates and groups developed a list of questions and concerns related to 2023 WI Act 235. The groups worked with Attolles Law, who provided a legal analysis and summary of the 2023 Wisconsin Act 235. Based on the summary that Attolles Law provided, and additional discussions through PRIA Local and the WLIA Judicial Privacy Task Force - Legislative Subcommittee, the following is a list of recommended changes that would be part of proposed legislative amendments to 2023 WI Act 235.

1. Address data that are not associated with the name of the owner or occupant should be allowed to be shared publicly. Address Point data for NextGen-911, Market Drive, collect. Example DCiMap.
2. In Section 7, (4m)(a) the definition of a “land records website” shall provide language that the Register of Deeds website does not fall under this meaning as is exempt as it is previously defined in Section 6 and defined in § 59.43(1r).

Ex: “land records website” for Act 235 shall exempt the Register of Deeds. 59.43(9)(a)(2) - requires the index to be accessible and searchable by name(s), document number, and tract of land (not address)
3. Clarify that Wis. Stat. § 757.07(4m) (providing the requirements of the Act applicable to providers of public facing land records websites) supersedes the other requirements of the Act with respect to providers of public facing land records websites. See Q/A 24, 26, and 27.
 - a. Clarify that a land records website providing an opt-out process, no searching or display of an owner name, can still display an address and not a violation of the act.
 - b. The opt-out implementation severs the link between a name and address, by not allowing a search and retrieve by name.
 - c. Allow addresses without owner or occupant names, to be available on public facing websites for address verification, ex: utilities, 911/NG911, bus routes.
 - d. Example AccessDane and DCiMap.
4. Requests for record redaction/shielding should be specific and reasonable. Similar to Wisconsin Public Records law 19.35(1). A request is deemed sufficient if it reasonably describes the requested record or the information requested.
 - a. Example of reasonable request: Redact my name on the unrecorded survey I had done for the property at 123 Main St in 2005. or Don't show my personally identifiable information for the records of my code enforcement violation on my property at 123 Main St from 2000 - 2024.
 - b. Example of unreasonable request: Never display records of my personally identifiable information to the public online or via an open records request. Never publicly show my personally identifiable information on a map that has already been made or will be made in the next 10 years.
5. Provide an exemption under the Act for other statutorily required processes, procedures, and functions of government agencies (e.g., information required to be shared with the State or federal agencies, publishing legal notices related to tax deeds, etc.). See Q/A 6, 14, and 19.
 - a. Comments during public comment period. - Likely doesn't need amendment. Can just tell the JO to say they live in the jurisdiction (i.e. county, town, city, etc.)

- b. Tax deed: Allow an owner's name to be published as it relates to the tax lien foreclosure process. §75.521(3)(am)1.
 - c. Permit, Variance, etc: Publication withholding the name of the JO
 - d. Managed Forest Law: Publication withholding the name of the JO (needs to be discussed with staff closer to the concern)
6. Define the term “secondary address” to avoid ambiguity of what properties are permitted to be included in a written request.
 7. Require written requests and release consents to be notarized to ensure the authenticity of written requests to avoid inadvertent disclosure. See Q/A 1-4. (leave this on here, but not a sticking point if challenged)
 8. Add process for interested third parties to obtain electronic versions of documents from the Register of Deed's office (e.g., an adjoining property owner seeking a copy of an easement on a Judicial Officer's property). See Q/A 25. (again, not a sticking point, but should be addressed somehow)
 9. Require Judicial Officers to notify government agencies when a home address subject to a written request no longer qualifies as the Judicial Officer's home address. See Q/A 10.

Milestone	Anticipated Date
Feedback on Attolles Law Memo	Due 10/15/2024
Attolles Law Workgroup	To begin 10/16/2024
Recommendations for Cleanup Legislation Submitted to Director of State Courts	Due 11/15/2024
WLIA Workflow Recommendations to Partners	To begin 11/16/2024
Recommendation for Cleanup Legislation Submitted to Legislature	1/15/2025
Effective Date	4/1/2025

Attolles Law Workgroup:

- Andrew Phillips – Attolles Law
- Marcie Rainbolt – WCA
- Adam Dorn – WLIA – Winnebago County
- Fred Iausly – WLIA – Dane County
- Nik Anderson – WLIA – Ayres Associates
- Staci Hoffman – WLIA/WRDA – Jefferson County
- Nels Rude – WLIA Lobbyist