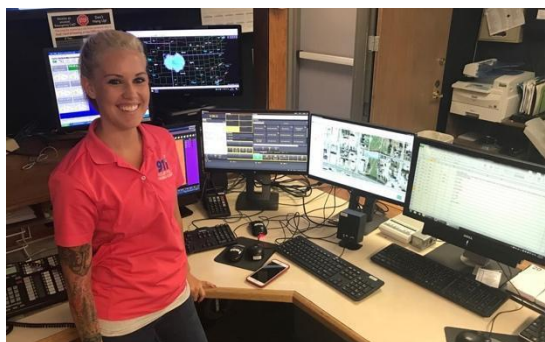




Next Generation 911 (NG911)

Background

Next Generation (NG911) will modernize legacy 911 systems across the nation, aligning with current technology to improve operations and response. A key component of NG911 involves replacing analog telephone networks, primarily designed for voice communications, with Internet Protocol (IP) networks capable of consuming, integrating, and distributing a variety of multimedia communications, including voice, text, photos, and videos. Additionally, NG911 systems facilitate communication and coordination between different agencies and systems, improving overall emergency response. With a modern technical architecture at its core, NG911 systems deliver improved connectivity, resiliency, redundancy, and cybersecurity.



Geographic Information Systems and Next Generation 911

While a key component of NG911 is the modernization of the underlying hardware, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) also

play a pivotal role. Authoritative geographic databases, including address points, road centerlines, emergency service boundaries, and Public Safety Answer Point (PSAP) boundaries, support key functional elements of an NG911 system - from routing a 911 call to providing critical geographic awareness to 911 communication professionals, law enforcement, and emergency responders. These layers require local government involvement and are often developed and maintained at that level before being aggregated or “rolled-up” to regional or statewide extents. Effectively, *GIS is the fuel in the NG911 engine*, and therefore, has been a catalyst to many GIS programs around the nation. For example, NG911 programs develop and maintain a majority of the data contributed to the National Address Database (NAD). Ongoing support and maintenance of these *critical GIS databases* is essential to providing effective NG911 services.



We ask you to:

- Support the reauthorization of the FCC’s auction authority, setting aside funds that state and local jurisdictions will use to facilitate implementation and maintenance of NG911 operations, including investments in hardware, software, data, and training. H.R.3565 - Spectrum Auction Reauthorization Act of 2023.
 - As illustrated by this joint letter to Congress, nine national organizations support this legislation (https://nsgic.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Joint_Letter_Congress_1_23_2.pdf).

About the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC)

Since 1991, NSGIC has been the state led hub of national geospatial experts promoting coordinated, impactful, and efficient application of geographic Information systems (GIS) to best serve the nation. GIS and the spatial information it serves underpin much of the activities of government and the lives of the people of the nation.