



The Case for a National Parcels Dataset

Cadastral/parcel boundaries are a fundamental part of the geospatial data framework in the United States. Parcels built from local, authoritative data to a national level would be a very powerful resource.

Local governments are responsible for capturing property boundaries, which form the foundation for administration. When a disaster strikes, parcels integrated at the state level quickly support analysis of impacted areas that cross county and state boundaries. Parcel boundaries also delineate federal lands, distinguish private from public land, and could define Tribal boundaries. A complete national parcel dataset would extend the capabilities of federal programs addressing issues such as strong infrastructure, affordable housing and food security.

Parcels are important to private sector interests, including real estate industry, economic development, insurance, and projects supported by the private sector such as broadband mapping, engineering, and environmental analysis. Unfortunately, current parcel data collected and made available is not complete nor reliable. NSGIC could use current technology to go beyond current limits and bring this important dataset to include the nation.

Parcels are important at all levels of government to meet public sector business needs with applications in emergency response, tax administration, transportation planning, elections, agriculture,

Current State

Not all states can share parcel data due to state-level rules, and NSGIC hopes to see improvements with a coordinated national effort already underway. Most states have parcel data for at least 80% of their jurisdictions and collaborative relationships with local governments. The majority of states have publicly available data, important details within the datasets; however, fewer states have funding to sustain their statewide parcels dataset.

The Case for Open Data

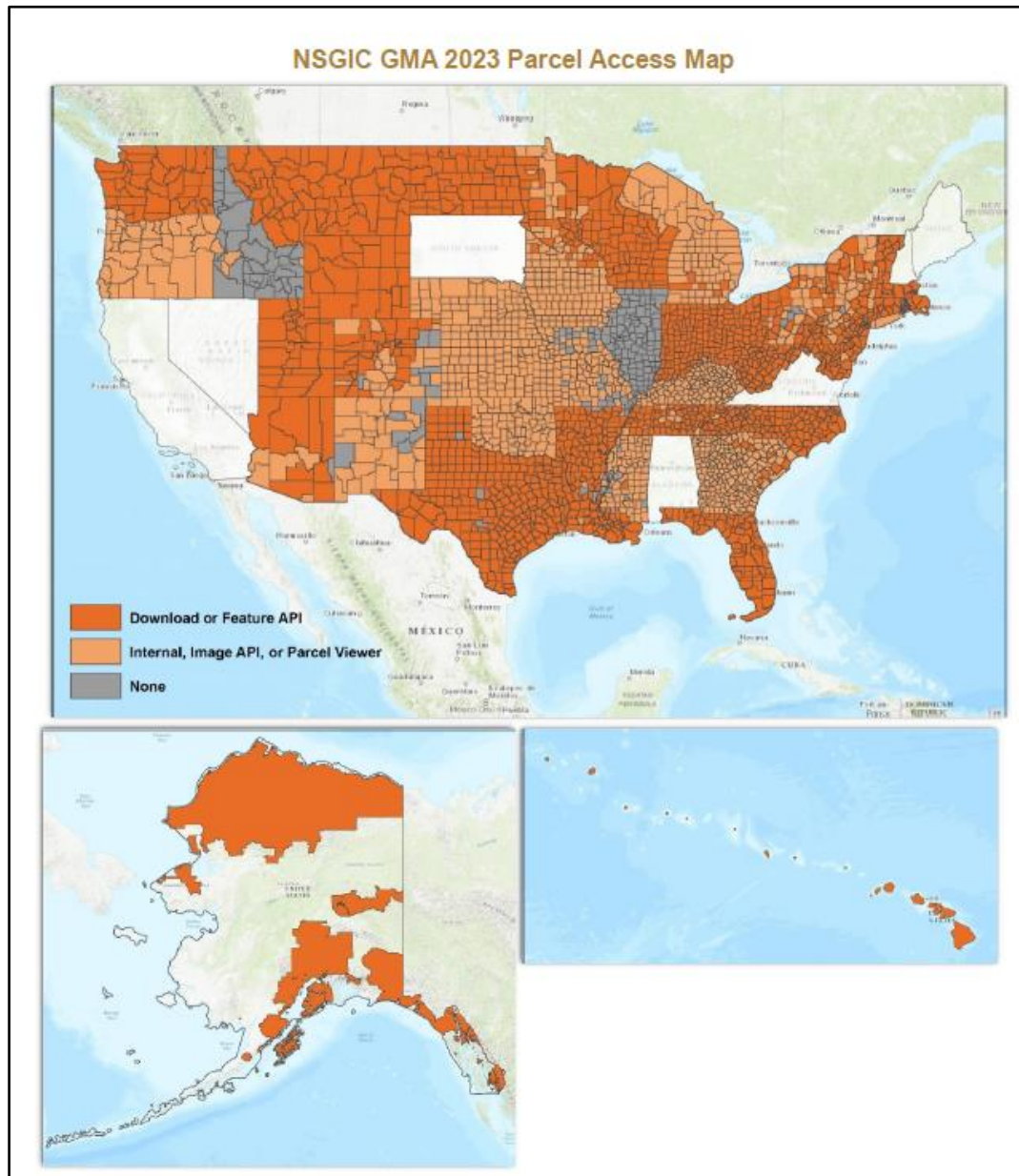
To maximize the value of the National Parcel Dataset, it should be considered open data and usable by all parties, including government and non-government sectors. It is reasonable to limit details of the data, if needed, after careful consideration and reasonable documentation of the data schema. States that have open parcel data that can be used by researchers and planners have experienced positive outcomes for smart transportation, economic development and more.

Recent research has shown that the annual collection of parcel data for a state can show a savings statewide of over \$2M to the state and local government each year, due to the reduction in repetitive data collection.



Ask:

- Provide support to better understand the completeness of the dataset in each state.
- Help identify the federal agencies that benefit from parcel data, and understand those connections.



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.