GIS Community of Practice
Live Monthly Forum

Last Wednesday of the month

Wednesday, October 29th , 2025
1:30 – 2:30 PM

California Department of
Technology

CA.gov

GIS Community of Practice (CoP)

- Welcome to the Live GIS CoP forum.
- For the best experience, please use your computer to join the meeting.

- Mute your audio.

- Turn off your video unless you're presenting or in active discussion.

- Use the raise hand button or the meeting chat for comments and questions.

- We will begin shortly.

GIS CoP Agenda

Welcome
- o Lothar Petrik, CDT GIO

Main Topics

- Ryan Lopez, Senior IT Analyst, Fresno Public Works and Planning, (rylopez@fresnocountyca.gov), "Overture Maps Foundation & Geoparquet Data in ArcGIS Pro"

- Discussion and Poll: GIS Software Vendors

- Building footprint datasets

- CDT GIS, "Upcoming 2026 Accessibility Requirements and GIS Applications"

Announcements
- o [GIS Day Registration Open for in person and virtual](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act Updates

- New requirements for **all web content** – including pages with GIS applications and data – to a specific standard, the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, Version 2.1 Level AA.
  - Often abbreviated as WCAG 2.1 AA.
  - While the name says "Guidelines", **federal law makes them a requirement**
- Your government, school district, or university almost certainly needs to comply by April 24 2026, with limited exceptions for very small municipalities and districts.
  - You must also ensure contractors and vendors who produce public facing web content comply.

Accessibility and GIS

- It's complicated!
- Some core principles to start with, but these **may not satisfy your legal requirements fully**.
  - Meet WCAG requirements for the application itself, related to keyboard navigation, screenreader compatibility, etc.
  - Provide alt text of the application content and a description of key takeaways or interpretations of data in the viewer, if applicable
  - Provide a prominent means for viewing the source data in an accessible form and downloading the data as an alternative access mechanisms.
- But there's also quite a bit more in WCAG 2.1!
  - Esri products don't always fully comply

What's Next?

- We recommend you consult with your own web and legal teams about this, if applicable
- We'd love to foster a subcommunity related to accessibility – we know many of you have already been talking about it.
- We're hoping to bring a presentation about this to you in January
- More resources, links and details available in our Community Discussion Forum at https://giscop.cdt.ca.gov/t/upcoming-wcag-2-1-accessibility-requirements-for-gis-professionals/452
  - Includes links to the rules, resources, and Esri conformance reports
  - Also includes interpreted differences from existing state requirements.

Coming up...

Upcoming Topics

Other people talking!

o Presentations for upcoming months from Open Source

Conferences

o **State GIS Day Meeting and Celebration**
Wed, November 12th, 2025

o **LA County GIS Day**
Wed, November 19th, 2025

Thank you

Next GIS CoP Monthly Forum

Wednesday, January 28th, 2026

October is the last virtual monthly meeting of the year!

See you at the State of CA GIS Day!

November 12th, 2025

Questions or comments send to: gis@state.ca.gov