



## Legislative Priority: Stable funding for the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP)

### Background

The Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP) was created in 1989 and is now governed by the Division of Intergovernmental Relations within the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA).

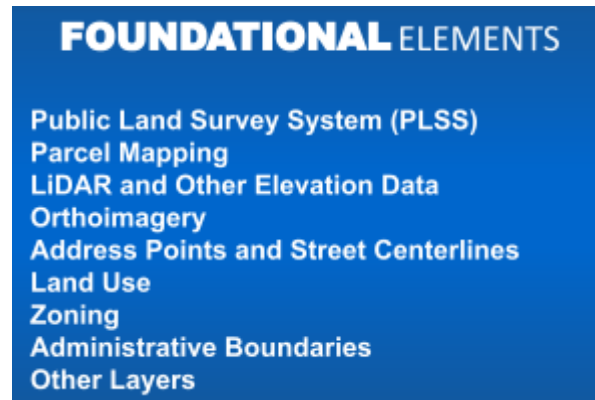
### Value of the WLIP

The WLIP is an important piece of the funding solution used to create and maintain geospatial data - a critical component to all sectors of business in Wisconsin. WLIP helps fund the creation and maintenance of data used for public safety, economic development, emergency management, transportation planning, property ownership and assessment, environmental monitoring, engineering, surveying, and utility mapping. The WLIP is also funding initiatives that make geospatial data widely available, easier to access, and easier to use. Private industry, non-profits, academia, and all levels of government rely on WLIP supported geospatial data to be more efficient and enable better decision making.

### How the WLIP Works

Revenue for the WLIP is generated from fees included when real estate documents are recorded with counties. Of the \$15 collected for land modernization, \$8 is retained by the counties and \$7 is given to the DOA to fund statewide data initiatives through base budget and strategic initiative grants awarded back to the counties.

Counties participating in the WLIP must have a land information plan addressing the development of specific layer groupings referred to as the WLIP Foundational Elements. WLIP revenue retained by the county and awarded in grants must be spent consistent with the county's approved plan.



The vision of the WLIP is to aggregate locally-produced data to create statewide digital map layers and a statewide land information system.

### Strengthening the WLIP

Wisconsin 2013 Act 20 significantly strengthened the WLIP by creating the segregated Land Information Fund - funded by program revenue, increasing training and education grants for counties, adding a statutory directive to fund the WLIP base budget eligibility up to the \$100k threshold, directing DOA to create a statewide digital parcel map, and by directing counties to meet a searchable format standard for parcel information.

### WLIA's Request

Maintain stable and predictable funding of the WLIP, while building on the success of 2013 Act 20 and the statewide parcel map. In addition to prioritizing and implementing other statewide geospatial data initiatives, on-going maintenance of the parcel map will be required. The WLIP is a critical funding source that counties use to create and maintain authoritative geospatial data that is in turn used by the private sector and all levels of government to make better decisions. Any reduction in WLIP funding could have negative impacts on statewide data initiatives and risk undoing the progress made through 2013 Act 20. As the remaining foundational elements are prioritized, secure and consistent WLIP funding will become even more important.