



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

### WLIA's Request

WLIA is seeking stable and sustained funding, essential to the WLIP's continued success. Land information, the data and related maps, require on-going maintenance. WLIP is the primary funding source that supports the creation and maintenance of the authoritative land information data that are used by the public and private sectors at all levels. Reductions in WLIP funding due to sustained historically low document recording levels have negatively impacted statewide data initiatives and risk undoing the progress Wisconsin made following 2013 Act 20. Inflationary costs and additional service requirements are consistently eroding the stability of the program. Secure and sustained funding is needed to maintain the WLIP Foundational Elements to the high-quality standard that Wisconsin citizens have come to expect.

### **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). 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. All 72 counties participate in the program governed by [§16.967](#) and [§59.72](#), as well as [Administrative Rule Chapter 47](#).

### **How WLIP Funding Works**

Revenue for the WLIP is generated from a recording fee collected when documents are recorded at the county Register of Deeds Office. Of the \$15 collected for land modernization, \$8 is retained by the county and \$7 is sent to the DOA to fund statewide data initiatives through base budget and strategic initiative grants awarded back to counties. Program eligibility requires each county to review and update a land information plan every 3 years. The plan must include the development and maintenance of required data (Foundational Elements). Annual requirements include standardized reporting on program spending, holding land information council meetings, and submission of data in a specified format that can be aggregated by State Agencies to support statewide programs.

### **Value of the WLIP**

The WLIP is a critical source of funding for the creation and maintenance of land information data used by all sectors of business in Wisconsin. Through WLIP, land information data is continuously accessible via the internet using mapping technology that increases the accuracy, completeness, and efficiency of land information in Wisconsin. 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.

*The purpose of the Wisconsin Land Information Association is to foster the understanding, development, operation and maintenance of a network of statewide land information systems. Specifically, the Wisconsin Land Information Association's mission is focused on promoting sound policy, promoting interaction and cooperation, technical research and education*

### **WLIP FUNDING SUPPORTS**

**Broadband**  
**Economic Development**  
**Elections**  
**Emergency Management**  
**Health Services**  
**Land Conservation**  
**Next Generation 911**  
**Outdoor Recreation**  
**Public Safety**  
**Real Estate Industry**  
**Transportation and Utilities**

### **CRITICAL MAPPING DATA FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS**

**Public Land Survey System (PLSS)**  
**Parcel Mapping**  
**Lidar and Other Elevation Data**  
**Orthoimagery**  
**Address Points and Street Centerlines**  
**Land Use**  
**Zoning**  
**Administrative Boundaries**  
**Other Layers**