

Best Practices in Seven States' Parcel Programs

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Seven states that support local parcel mapping are highlighted in a new report from the FGDC Cadastral Data Subcommittee. The seven states are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Montana, North Carolina, Tennessee and Wisconsin. The study looked at these successful programs to understand what made them successful. The results may have implications for Minnesota and for the Governor's Council [Land Records Modernization Committee](#) efforts.

Early programs, like Wisconsin's, were focused on building land information systems that included all layers. The programs started since the late 1990s were specifically meant to meet the needs of the local assessor. This shift appears to follow improvements in the technology that have made parcel conversion effective within existing budgets.

This narrowing of focus allows a single state department to assume a leadership position for getting state funding focused on this business need. Since that department already is responsible for coordinating local assessor activities, it is easier to establish standards and training programs for all counties. This holds down costs while ensuring data compatibility across county boundaries. For smaller counties, work can be outsourced and made available to county officials over the web.

The full report, *An Assessment of Best Practices in Seven State Parcel Management Programs*, is available at www.nationalcad.org/showdoclist.asp?doctype=99&navsrc=Report.

http://www.mngislis.org/newsletter/issue45/Parcel_Program.htm