

During the 2016 MidAmerica GIS Symposium held on April 26 in Overland Park, KS, the OK Office of Geographic Information's OKMAPS project was awarded the MAGIC Award for GIS Innovation. The GIS Innovation Award is given to nominees who have demonstrated outstanding innovation using GIS technologies to benefit their community in the Mid-America region during the past two years. Contributions may have been through applications or projects that reflect creative utilization of GIS.

The MidAmerica GIS Consortium, Ltd. (MAGIC) is a nonprofit educational organization established to foster the applications of geographic information systems (GIS) and related spatial technologies in the mid-continent region. In 1998 the MidAmerica GIS Consortium initiated a series of awards to recognize and honor public agencies, firms, organizations and individuals that have made especially noteworthy contributions to advancing the state-of-the-art and application of geographic information technologies in MidAmerica. These biennial awards are presented at each MidAmerica GIS Symposium.

Nominations for Consortium awards are explicitly solicited from state GIS organizations affiliated with MAGIC, past honorees and other MAGIC-affiliated organizations (e.g., corporate members); individuals may also submit nominations. The awards are then voted on by the 9 state GIS organizations affiliated with MAGIC with each state getting one vote.

The nomination submitted for the OKMAPS project was as follows: *In todays out of the box solutions for a GIS Clearinghouse Oklahoma's Office of Geographic Information determined what the OK GIS Community needed and took a different direction. OKMAPS is developed on an open source platform that exhibits a can do attitude & spirit of generosity that is the "Oklahoma Standard". OKMAPS not only created an open platform repository for housing GIS data but developed GIS utilities to enable the integration of data into end user applications. With the ability to download in many formats & projections, reproject, direct connect to services, or upload local data & share to anyone with only an internet browser OKMAPS is one of the most robust functionally customizable no cost publically available GIS resources in the region. This all has been accomplished by dedicated individuals who devote countless unfunded hours to make OKMAPS a model of what can be accomplished on a limited budget.*

The Oklahoma Office of Geographic Information (OGI) is an agency of the State of Oklahoma housed within the Oklahoma Conservation Commission. The OGI was created to coordinate the development, maintenance and distribution of location-based geographic information for the State of Oklahoma while eliminating duplicative activities. The OGI does not receive any appropriated funding from the State. The OKMaps project is funded through grants from the FEMA Grant Programs Directorate, U. S. Department of Homeland Security and the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security.

<http://okmaps.org/ogi/search.aspx>