

February 25, 2019

Honorable Sen. Riley  
Honorable Rep. Nathanson  
Oregon State Legislature  
Co-Chairs, Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management & Technology  
900 Court St. NE, S-303 & H-279  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Sen. Riley and Rep. Nathanson,

211info is pleased to offer strong support for the navigatOR geospatial data sharing program and funding as proposed by the Oregon Geographic Information Council (OGIC).

The ability to create, manage, access, and share geospatial data is vital to our organization and the people who call 211info for help. By working to create adequate capacity in the state Geospatial Enterprise Office and in the many other government bodies that generate much of the necessary data, the OGIC proposal takes tangible and meaningful steps toward the statewide sharing necessary for making data accessible to all Oregon public bodies. Our organization will benefit from having that data be managed in a more efficient way.

We share the proposed goals of avoiding duplicated effort and making high quality geospatial data consistently available across all of Oregon. OGIC itself, with representation from public bodies at all levels of government, will play a key role in the coordination necessary to ensure data sharing and program oversight. The additional proposed funding will acquire fundamental needs (e.g. software and staff) that enable generating data and building the systems that make sharing easy to do.

Furthermore, the benefits the navigatOR data sharing program will provide to improve local efforts in terms of e-permitting, disaster preparedness and response, sustainable economic and workforce development, natural resource management, and public safety will be very useful to 211info. We see navigatOR as an excellent resource for accessing integrated information, especially geospatial data, which will augment our own efforts.

Sincerely,



Dan Herman  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Cy Smith, Oregon Geographic Information Officer  
Jeff Frkonja, Chair, Oregon Geographic Information Council