



Wisconsin County  
Surveyors Association

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June 6, 2017

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Adam Derringer – Wisconsin Land Information Council Chairman

**RE: Wisconsin County Surveyors Association Support for a Statewide Public Land Survey System Layer**

Dear Geographic Information Colleague,

I am writing to you today as President of the Wisconsin County Surveyors Association to convey our organization's **strong support for a Statewide Public Land Survey System (PLSS) data layer**. As the State of Wisconsin moves forward with newer and better iterations of the statewide parcel map, the PLSS can and should be the very foundation on which the map is built.

Creation of a statewide PLSS data layer is the logical next step as we move forward. The Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP) currently recognizes the importance of a properly remonumented and maintained network of PLSS corner monuments and provides funding for remonumentation and maintenance. The PLSS data layer can then be incorporated into the parcel map to improve parcel accuracy. There is currently no firm PLSS layer. In many instances, what is being used is "Landnet", which was produced from paper maps by the DNR several decades ago.

PLSS is the foundation and framework for all property descriptions in Wisconsin. It improves accuracy and can improve computed property acreages for fair taxation. It can also bring to light poorly written property descriptions.

The WCSA has long championed the need for an accurate PLSS layer and incorporating it into the statewide parcel layer. These issues have been openly discussed and encouraged at the parcel-survey forums in 2015, 2016 and 2017. The consensus is that, in addition to completing PLSS remonumentation, we should use PLSS data to solidify our statewide parcel map.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter of mutual importance. If I may answer any questions or provide further input, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Bryan H. Meyer

President – Wisconsin County Surveyors Association