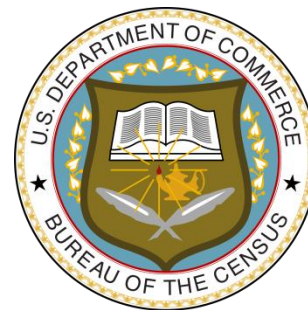White House Initiative

Open Government Partnership

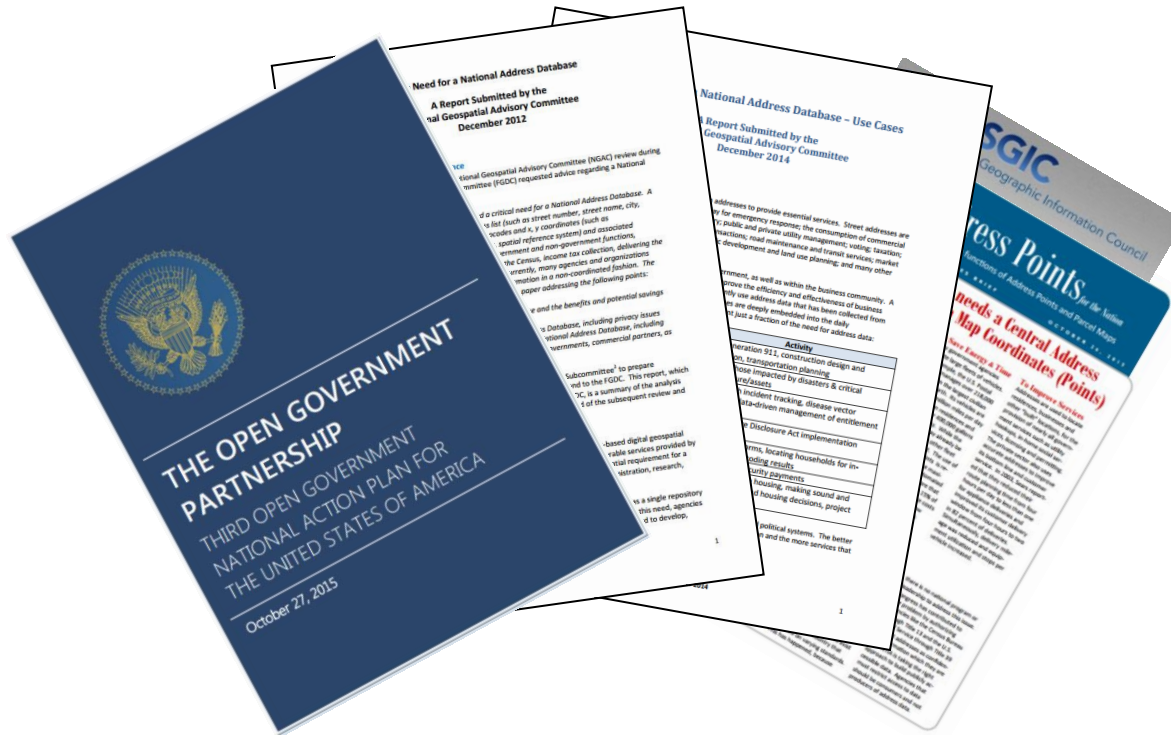National Action Plan

National Address Database

National Address Database

- What is a National Address Database?

- How does it work?

- Why do we need a National Address Database?

- What can it be used for?

- Why now?

- Why the Department of Transportation?

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What is a National Address Database?

Open Government Partnership to Improve Public Services

4. **Launch a Process to Create a Consolidated Public Listing of Every Address in the United States.** Although address information for residential and commercial properties is collected across the United States by all levels of government and industry, it isn't currently compiled in an open, easily accessible format. Additionally, much of the information collected at the Federal level is prohibited from public release due to various privacy laws. **This non-private address information can be crucial to first responders and emergency service providers** and can also be useful to innovators who might use it to build tools or launch services to improve communities. **The Department of Transportation** will begin coordinating across the public and private sector; connecting agencies, industry and innovators to gain consensus on an open standard for public address information; pursuing open data strategies for sharing certain address information — excluding names and other private information; and exploring uses of this information that drive innovation and inform the public.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/final_us_open_government_national_action_plan_3_0.pdf

What is a National Address Database?

A single, uniform, authoritative, open source dataset comprised of all commercial and residential addresses available in the public domain. This will improve public services, improve response times for emergencies, decrease government spending, reduce redundant collection, storage and maintenance of information; and, it will support emerging technologies and it will benefit business innovation and development.
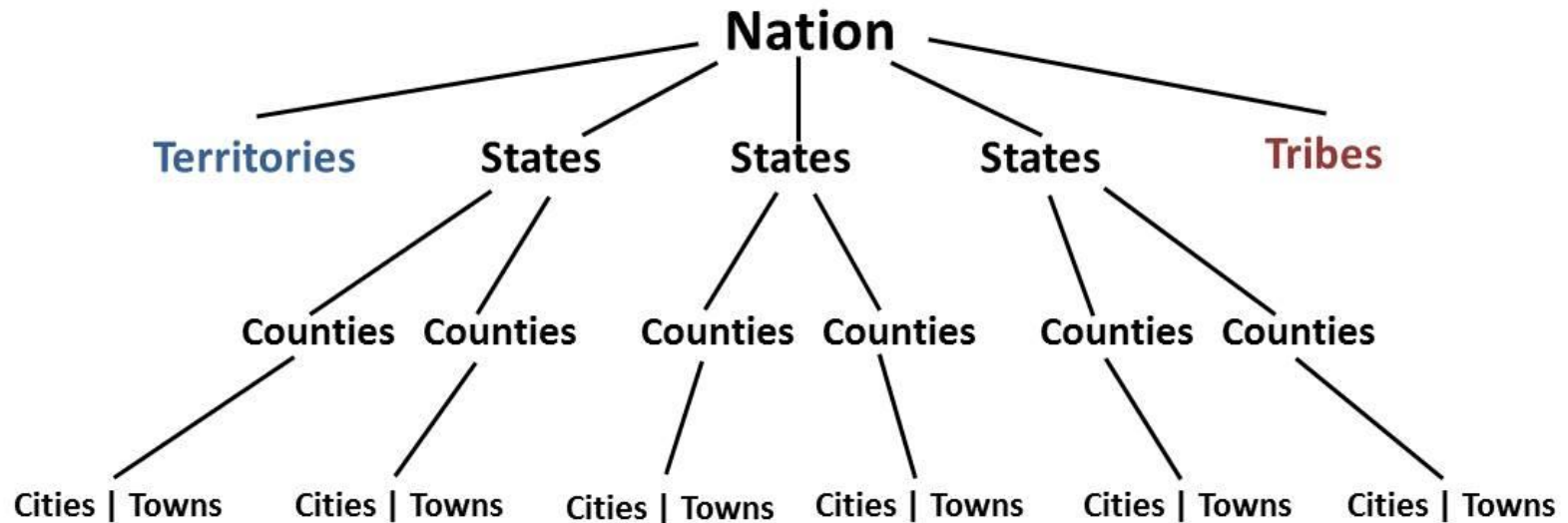
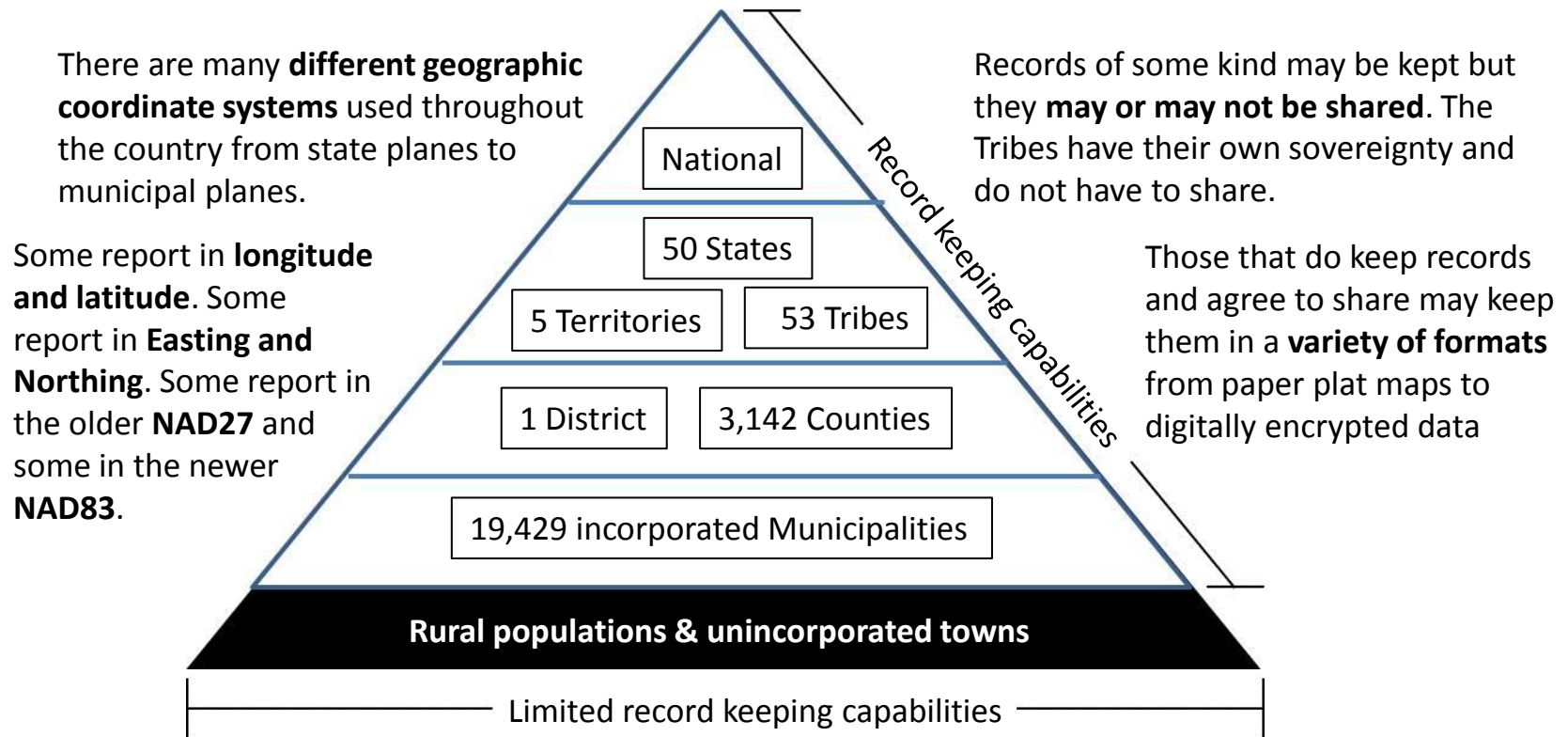**Collect one time. Use many times.**

How does it work?

The National Address Database is not actually a single database. It is an architecture made up of all the independent, authoritative address datasets in the country unified into a consistent, open schema allowing necessary information to be retrieved from a single query point.

It is actually made up of thousands of independent community datasets.

Why do we need it?

There are many **different geographic coordinate systems** used throughout the country from state planes to municipal planes.

Some report in **longitude and latitude**. Some report in **Easting and Northing**. Some report in the older **NAD27** and some in the newer **NAD83**.

Records of some kind may be kept but they **may or may not be shared**. The Tribes have their own sovereignty and do not have to share.

Those that do keep records and agree to share may keep them in a **variety of formats** from paper plat maps to digitally encrypted data

National

50 States

5 Territories   53 Tribes

1 District   3,142 Counties

19,429 incorporated Municipalities

Rural populations & unincorporated towns

Record keeping capabilities

Limited record keeping capabilities

Emergencies like **Hurricane Katrina** and **Super Storm Sandy** destroyed structures and street signs proving that without **good situational awareness** rescue operations are greatly hindered. It is necessary to have a system that the **National Guard/Reserve** and **FEMA** can access to **plan their rescue operations in a more timely and efficient manner**.

Why do we need it?

- **Economic benefits of $2 billion annually**.

  - Estimates based on studies by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) show that the U.S. is losing $1 billion annually through duplicating collection efforts and the costs of maintaining and storing redundant data.

  - Based on real savings in other countries with openly available address data it is estimated that the U.S. would have a positive economic benefit in excess of $1 billion annually.

- **Sharing information makes government more efficient and less expensive.**

Source: https://www.nsgic.org/public_resources/Address_Points_FTN_Brochure_102615_Final.pdf

What can it be used for?

- Emergency services

- Land ownership records

- Utility records

- Focused alerts by the National Weather Service and other agencies

- Construction, permitting and zoning

- Disaster assistance relief and disaster assistance loans

- Offender database

- Online applications validated against address points

- Detailed navigation and optimal routing

- School districting

- Real Estate

- Consumer Finance Protection Bureau Mortgage recordation

- Fraud detection

- Health outbreaks and containment

Why now?

- **Disaster Assistance and Recovery**
  - Natural disasters are becoming more deadly and costly
  - Lessons from Hurricane Katrina, Super Storm Sandy, Indian Ocean Tsunami, Oso Mudslide, Joplin Tornado

- **Reduce costs of government**
  - Decrease redundant collection efforts, storage and maintenance of the same or similar information.

- **Improve Coordination among all levels of Government**

- **Advancements in Technology and Support for Emerging Technologies**
  - Greater storage capacity, faster processing power, advanced software, cloud connected capabilities, geospatial information systems
  - Driverless vehicles, unmanned aerial systems, internet of things

Why the Department of Transportation?

The **U.S. Department of Transportation** was identified as the primary agency for the effort in the President's *Open Government Partnership, National Action Plan, Round 3* which is the plan currently being implemented.

Addresses give location of a place **in relation to a navigation network** which is a primary function of the Department of Transportation.

The **National Address Database** will also support the work being done by the USDOT for the **Next Generation 9-1-1** emergency management system.

Privacy and protection laws prevent certain agencies like the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Census Bureau from disclosing their records.

Private companies like **Open Street Maps, Google Maps**, **Bing Maps** and **Apple Maps** have proprietary and licensing restrictions on their records.

What is a Developers Challenge?

A challenge is a competition opened to the general public under the authority of the **America COMPETES Act**.

A Developer's Data Challenge is a specific type of competition that invites **developers and coders** to showcase their talents and compete for prizes and awards in order to solve a specific problem set.

The specifics of the challenge are defined in an announcement that is published in the Federal Register [Place holder: https://www.federalregister.gov].

When the announcement for the Open Address Information Developers Challenge is published a link to the rules, regulations and eligibility of the competition will be made active on the main page of the Open Address Information Challenge webpage [www.DOT.gov/NAD] along with the link to the Federal Register. An email will also go out to all those who have signed up on the Open Address Information listserve.

What is the purpose of this challenge?

There are about 92 million authoritative address records available online in the United States of America which constitutes the core of the National Address Database. The remaining business and residential addresses are not available because they are in a format that is not compatible with the digital age, i.e.: paper records and plat maps, or because the local community lacks the funding, manpower, expertise and/or technological resources to make those records available.

To augment this effort it is necessary to build a **mobile/web-based application** that **allows individuals to self-report** commercial and residential addresses and locations; as well as, by police, firemen, city officials, utility companies, FEMA Corps, GIS advocates and citizen support groups like the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America.

The application needs to be easy to use, agile and adaptable; and fulfill the minimum content requirements which can be found at:
http://www.DOT.gov/NAD/Challenge/minimum-content-requirements.

Sponsors & Partners
For more information

Call for Sponsors

If you are interested in working with the U.S. Department of Transportation on this developers challenge and want to help incentivize the awards and prizes being offered please visit the **Sponsor & Partner Presentation**.

Call for Proprietary Partners

If you are a company interested in working with the U.S. Department of Transportation and would like to make your products or services available to the participants of the developers challenge to use to for building application solutions then please visit the **Sponsor & Partner Presentation**.

Call for Outreach Partners

If you are a company, college or university, organization, group or individual and are interested in working with the U.S. Department of Transportation to help spread the word and/or can offer material support for possible events please visit the **Sponsor & Partner Presentation**.

Developers & Contributors
For more information

Call for Developers
If you are a developer of any kind a can create a web-based or mobile application that can fulfill the basic minimum content requirements and you have a GitHub account then please see the **Developer & Contributor Presentation**.

Call for Contributors
If you have skills and expertise helpful to a developer but do not have the complete skillset necessary to develop a web-based or mobile application and you would like to enter the challenge in a support role then please see the **Developer & Contributor Presentation**.

Media & Observers
For more information

Call for Media
If you are a media person who would like to cover the story and would like more information then please visit the **Media Relations Presentation**.

Observers
If you have an interest in this subject and would like to stay informed on the topic then please sign-up on the listserve for the National Address database and you will receive emails as pertinent information becomes available.

Questions

If you have general questions about the National Address Database then please enter your comments and questions on the **National Address Database Comment Forum**. We will answer your question as soon as time permits and may add your question to the FAQ section.

If you have specific questions about the developers challenge then please enter your questions and comments on the **Open Address Information Developers Challenge Forum** which is open only to those who have registered for the challenge and we will answer them as soon as possible and may add the question(s) to the Data Challenge FAQ section.

National Address Database

Thank you

National Address Database

Resources

http://www.data4sdgs.org/

http://www.opengovpartnership.org

http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

https://www.fgdc.gov/ngac/meetings/december-2012/NGAC%20National%20Address%20Database%20Paper.pdf

https://www.fgdc.gov/ngac/meetings/december-2014/ngac-national-address-database-use-case-paper-december-2014.pdf