Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2017
Time: 9:00 am, Eastern Daylight Time (New York, GMT-04:00)

Agenda
Roll Call/Introductions
Discussion
- Intended audience of document
- Define end users of business data (confirm: government, private, education, …)
- SDAT/eLicense DB – Circuit Court/DLLR/? What are the interrelationships in reference to documenting business entities.

Refine Purpose/Challenges/Objectives – please review below.
Open Discussion

Purpose
The purpose of the Business Entity Data Working Group (Working Group) is to investigate the various public and private business datasets available to the GIS community in Maryland and to determine if there is a no cost, government database that can be made available and shared for both government and public consumption.

Current Challenges
Knowing where businesses are located is important for many industries in Maryland such as public safety and transportation. The Working Group has identified the following challenges:

Cost of Private Datasets
Historically, business data must be purchased since there is not an available public source for business entity data for Maryland. Private datasets are costly and often individual agencies must obtain their own license due to terms and conditions.

Lack of access to Government Maintained Business Databases
Maryland government maintains business-related data that are in some cases only accessible via a web interface where users can only search one business at a time. To obtain comprehensive data on business locations, many have either relied on data from a private vendor or self-generated data.

Inaccuracies of Business Location Data
An accurate, up-to-date inventory is a challenge as businesses move and change locations frequently and new businesses are established. Additionally descriptive information about businesses is often generated from predictive models.

Objectives
The primary objectives are as follows:

- To research and determine business entity data sources the State of Maryland maintains including but not limited to business licenses, business charters, and other regulatory databases that uniquely identify businesses within Maryland; and
- To identify the business entity data sources the State of Maryland maintains that can be made available, and establish recommendations on data sharing and access.