

10 LESSONS FOR GIOs



FOCUS ON PROVIDING SERVICE

01

Remember to prioritize your stakeholders. It helps to get out of the office and start conversations. Not everyone will get what they want, so manage expectations and work to find common solutions.

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH STATE AGENCIES

02

Stay closely connected to your Department of Transportation, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Equality, and 911 Program. By being present when decisions are made, a GIO can more effectively address issues and educate state leadership at the same time.

FOSTER A REPORTING FEEDBACK LOOP

03

Build a reporting feedback loop with state leadership that can help assess actions against the political backdrop.

PROMOTE YOUR BRAND

04

Be able to quickly and clearly articulate what you and your organization are doing to meet stakeholder needs.

STEP AWAY FROM THE TECH

05

Stepping away from the tech builds trust from your staff and gives you more time to focus on your programs.

06

HAVE A MODEL SET OF LEGISLATION, PROJECT PLANS, AND BUDGET REQUESTS

Having these on hand will save time and allow you to work quickly when new opportunities arise.

07

FOLLOW LEGISLATIVE MATTERS AND PRESENT THE FACTS

Identify pieces of legislation that could have ties to geospatial. Some are obvious, others less so. Don't pick political sides. If you do get involved, stick with the facts.

08

OPEN DOORS FOR OTHERS

Finds ways to mentor, champion or coach others. Empower your team and provide leadership opportunities.

09

CULTIVATE A CHAMPION

Keep your eyes and ears open for decision makers who are in a position to help your cause.

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ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN NSGIC

Attend conferences, find commonalities, and expand your communication network. Learn from the successes and failures of other GIOs.

Find more resources like this in the NSGIC Library on www.nsgic.org