

NORTH CAROLINA GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION COORDINATING COUNCIL

Statement of Direction for High Resolution Digital Aerial Imagery

The North Carolina Geographic Information Coordinating Council (Council) directs the Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC), in consultation with the Local Government Committee, to establish a statewide high resolution digital aerial imagery (orthophotography) program. Aerial imagery developed as part of the program will be consistent with the needs of local government and meet specifications of the North Carolina Land Records Management Program, the North Carolina Geodetic Survey, and the SMAC. Recommendations of the 2003 North Carolina Digital Aerial Imagery Task Force (June 2000) should be considered for planning and implementation of the program. The Council shall be advised, as appropriate, of program and policy implementation issues. The program will be consistent with the goals, characteristics, and implementation plans of *NC OneMap*.

The Council acknowledges that digital aerial imagery (orthophotography) is a strategic geographic information asset and that the imagery derived for use in local government are needed in numerous business applications in regional, state and federal government programs. Examples of such applications include floodplain mapping, transportation highway mapping and planning, environment and natural resource management, economic development and recruitment, education and research, search and rescue, multi-hazard threat applications, and various other emergency readiness, response, and recovery operations.

The Council envisions the development of a robust program that ensures the availability of the most current aerial imagery (orthophotography) for the statewide community. Until a robust program is implemented and reliably funded, the Council directs the SMAC to exploit every appropriate short term opportunity to share costs, negotiate in-kind services or seek other resources of member organizations, federal partners, and others for joint development of high resolution aerial imagery with local governments.

Adopted August 20, 2003