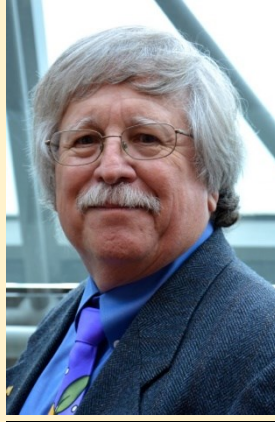


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**RATIONALE FOR AND EXPECTATIONS OF  
THE PLANNED GEODETIC DATUM CHANGES**

Enhancements and additions to the network of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) including: the U.S. NAVSTAR Global Positioning System, Russian GLONASS, European Union GALILEO and China's BeiDou are significantly improving the use and positional integrity of space-based positioning systems. To meet the anticipated demands for an improved geospatial framework that these developments will accommodate, the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) is implementing a strategy for the modernization of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) rigorously aligned with the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF). Among the various topics outlined in this presentation are discussions of the rationale for and magnitude of the anticipated horizontal and vertical positional changes and how these may impact existing federal, state, and local spatial data management systems (GIS).

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