

MapLibre Sponsorship Program



Overview

The MapLibre Organization maintains and develops an open-source maps toolkit consisting of two core map rendering engines: MapLibre GL JS for web browsers and MapLibre Native for iOS, Android, and more. Additionally, we host an ecosystem of plugins and tools that are centered around the core engines. Our maps toolkit offers mature and rich styling of vector maps with visual consistency across all supported platforms.

To foster an active community, we answer user questions, support and assist on GitHub issues, review pull requests, and maintain documentation websites covering our public APIs, as well as an exhaustive collection of examples. Our declared goal has always been to avoid fragmentation and indeed the MapLibre community has proven to be united behind one common open-source maps toolkit where we all join our efforts.

The biggest challenge for an open-source project like MapLibre is continuous dedication. Volunteers tend to provide excellent short-term contributions, but a project's long-term viability depends on the members actively responding to new users' questions and contributions. We think that the only way to ensure long-term stability is to hire staff to maintain the code bases and coordinate contributions.

MapLibre has seen significant industry adoption and major tech companies such as AWS, Meta, and Microsoft trust MapLibre and support us with financial, engineering, and infrastructure resources. But the current funding level is insufficient to have full-time maintainers and developers for MapLibre GL JS and MapLibre Native, and the comparatively small number of sponsors exposes MapLibre to a significant risk should one of them exit the project.

This is why MapLibre needs your support, and we call for your help!

What Is Sponsorship For?

The MapLibre Sponsorship Program aims to secure the continuity of the project and keep the code bases healthy and up-to-date. Paid **Maintainers** for MapLibre GL JS and MapLibre Native are responsible for the following tasks:

- Infrastructure maintenance
- Organize pull request review
- Issue triage
- Facilitate user questions
- Community building
- Documentation

To complement the work of the full-time Maintainers, a paid **Coordinator** manages the following administrative and organizational tasks:

- Fundraising: Communicate with sponsors, maintain sponsorship pipeline.
- Recruitment: Define maintainer roles, hire staff maintainers.
- Communication: Write monthly newsletter, maintain a social-media presence.
- Management: Prepare budgets and financial reports, schedule meetings.

While the majority of the donated funds are used for maintenance and coordination, the MapLibre Sponsorship Program also allocates some resources to the development of new features via the **Development Fund**.

The Development Fund allows the MapLibre Organization to directly influence and fund technical improvements on the maps toolkit.

Governance and Fiscal Host

MapLibre's governance is codified in the [MapLibre Charter](#) and consists of three bodies with defined responsibilities and competencies: The Voting Members, the Governing Board, and the Technical Steering Committee.

The MapLibre **Voting Members** are a group of people who have the right to elect the MapLibre Governing Board and who can vote on changes to the MapLibre Charter.

MapLibre's **Governing Board** is responsible for the overall project strategy. All financial decisions fall under its authority. The Board consists of 5 members who are elected during the FOSS4G conference and have tenure for one year. Meetings take place quarterly.

Meetings of the **Technical Steering Committee** facilitate a steady flow of information between contributors, maintainers, and commercial actors. Everyone is invited to join the Technical Steering Committee meetings. These monthly meetings are the place to discuss best practices, code quality standards, and to accept or reject non-trivial pull requests.

Open Source Collective 501(C)(6), a registered non-profit organization located in Covina, CA (USA), is MapLibre's fiscal host. Transactions from sponsors are directed to Open Source Collective, and all expenses are publicly visible with full accounting transparency at <https://opencollective.com/maplibre>.

Who should sponsor?

Your organization should sponsor MapLibre if

- Your products are built on top of MapLibre
- Your customers use MapLibre
- You want to upstream new features

By keeping the project alive, your organization will benefit. You can continue to use an open-source framework your users are familiar with, share maintenance costs with others, and be able to upstream features.

With your support, you ensure a sustainable path of the framework you are using, and reduce the risk of having to fork and maintain a code base of this complexity and scale yourself.

You help avoid community fragmentation which means that new customers will be able to migrate existing map styles to your service with ease.

Sponsorship Tiers & Benefits

Sponsors choose one of the following tiers and provide funds for at least 2 years.

Diamond: \$500,000/year with 40% allocated to the Development Fund. Logo on our website and in GitHub README, mentioned in all presentations, seat in the Advisory Council.

Platinum: \$300,000/year with 35% allocated to the Development Fund. Logo on our website and in GitHub README, mentioned in all presentations, seat in the Advisory Council.

Gold: \$150,000/year with 25% allocated to the Development Fund. Logo on our website and in GitHub README, mentioned in all presentations, seat in the Advisory Council.

Silver: The membership fee depends on the company size*. Small logo on our website and in GitHub README, mentioned in all presentations, seat in the Advisory Council**.

- \$80,000/year at 1000 employees or more: 20% allocated to the Development Fund.
- \$10,000/year at 1-999 employees: 0% allocated to the Development Fund.

*) Includes all employees of a company and all employees at parent, sister, and subsidiary companies. Excludes third-party contractors.

**) Advisory Council seat is only available to \$80,000/year Silver tier sponsors.

MapLibre Advisory Council

The MapLibre Advisory Council acts as a forum for feedback and exchange between the sponsors and the MapLibre Organization. The Council meets quarterly, and the members of the MapLibre Governing Board are welcome to join the meetings.

The Council offers sponsors a platform to discuss future engineering investments, forge collaborations, and settle on a common roadmap. An example of a successful collaboration between AWS and Meta, which was facilitated by conversations in the Advisory Council, is the migration to a Metal rendering backend in MapLibre Native.

Sponsors are invited to share how they use MapLibre internally to the level of detail that is possible and reasonable to them. We understand that sharing of such information will not always be possible due internal constraints.

While the Advisory Council has no binding decision power, we value the regular exchange with our sponsors and think that it will improve the long-term stability and sustainability of our collaboration.

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