

HARRIS COUNTY GIS TASK FORCE



MINUTES OF THE August 18, 2004 COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at the offices of the Greater Harris County 9-1-1

PRESENT:

André Bally	Harris County PID - Engineering
Marc Berryman	Greater Harris County 9-1-1
Travis Conner	Harris County ITC - JIMS
Randy Davidson	Harris County ITC - JIMS
Charles Ellis	Harris County ITC
Samuel Garcia	Harris County PID - Engineering
Michelle Manual	Greater Harris County 9-1-1
Osato Okorodudu	Harris County ITC
Michael Walters	Harris County Flood Control District
John Wong	Harris County ITC - JIMS

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion/Information	Responsibility	Due Date
Call to Order	André Bally, Harris County PID - ENG, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.	Roger Forshee	Monthly
Adoption of Minutes for July 21, 2004	With no changes, the minutes were unanimously approved and accepted.	All	Monthly
Introductions	There were two new alternate members in attendance: Michelle Manual of the Greater Harris County 9-1-1 and Samuel Garcia of Harris County PID – Engineering. Each member of the committee introduced themselves.	All	Monthly
Status Reports			
	No reports were given.	All	Monthly
Review of the Aug. 4th H-GAC GDC Meeting			
- New Member	There is a new GDC Committee member from the City of Houston. His name is Ed Dickie and he is replacing Stan Watson who recently retired from the COH.	André Bally	August 2004
- STAR*Map® Status	<p>Since the 2nd Quarter 2004 version of the STAR*Map was made available in the first week of July, there have been over 3,600 changes processed. This includes 730 new roads added and 2,870 attribute and/or spatial updates.</p> <p>The H-GAC is continuing to work with the Galveston County Appraisal District to generate address ranges for the Galveston County arcs. Service roads were not included in Galveston County, but H-GAC hopes to have them ready by the next release.</p> <p>The 3rd Quarter release of the STAR*Map will be available the first week of October 2004.</p> <p>Additional discussions included:</p> <p>Updates to the GDC_CLASS attributes in Fort Bend County were performed by the Fort Bend County Engineering Department.</p> <p>Adding a subdivision attribute field. Not all roads have subdivision attribute available at this time. If your organization has subdivision information available for roads, please provide it to the H-GAC.</p> <p>Roads that once existed but now no longer exist need to be tracked by the Greater HC 9-1-1. For these roads, a GDC_CLASS attribute of ‘pseudo’ will be added.</p>	André Bally	Monthly
- 2004 Aerial Imagery Acquisition	<p>The GDC Committee is coordinating a cost-shared purchase of new aerial imagery.</p> <p>H-GAC received the 2nd delivery of imagery on July 26th. It included all 1’ resolution imagery for Fort Bend County and some imagery in western Harris County. A third</p>	André Bally	Monthly

<p>Review of August 4th HGAC- GDC Meeting (continued)</p> <p>- 2004 Aerial Imagery Acquisition (continued)</p>	<p>delivery is expected the first week of August. H-GAC will begin distribution to GDC members once all imagery is received, probably in mid-September.</p> <p>H-GAC will compress all imagery to a MrSID format and will make it available along with the original TIF for those interested. H-GAC will also resample the 1' TIFs to ½ meter and make both available sometime in mid-December.</p> <p>There will be a 30 day QA/QC period for all imagery participants to review the data.</p>		
<p>- GDC Technical Advisory Committee on Remote Editing</p>	<p>There was a discussion about the GoSync products and licensing for participating members of the GDC. There are 14 agencies that expressed an interest in participating in a cost-shared purchase of the products. A report was provided to the committee that described the available products, their uses and prices. They are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) GoSync Server - \$16,000 (cost-shared) 2) GoSync View - \$400 (paid by agency) 3) GoSync Edit - \$800 (paid by agency) <p>There were questions about the implementation of the software as it relates to the annual cost of STAR*Map maintenance. Currently, a number of GDC members are contributing \$8,900 annually for maintenance. Since members will now be editing the data directly, the question arose about reducing or eliminating this cost. Max Samfield of the H-GAC will look at restructuring this cost and would like input from committee members.</p> <p>Questions also were brought up about establishing QA/QC procedures, standards for creating new arcs and address assignments. This could become an issue since everyone does this differently.</p> <p>Another point raised is that individual agencies maintain their own version of the STAR*Map and they may be more accurate than the one distributed by the GDC. It needs to be brought to the attention of the GDC committee that the most accurate version may need to be identified and used as the base version for all members.</p>	<p>André Bally</p>	<p>Monthly</p>
<p>- ABI Data</p>	<p>The GDC is pursuing the renewal of the license for the ABI business data and the household data.</p> <p>The business data costs \$30,000. Of that, H-GAC has committed \$10,000. There are several member agencies that have committed various amounts leaving an outstanding balance of \$15,000. The GDC needs several more participants to achieve the renewal cost.</p> <p>The household data costs \$5,000. HC JIMS has committed to provide the entire amount for this purchase.</p>	<p>André Bally</p>	<p>Sept. 2004</p>

<p>- GIS Day 2004</p>	<p>André informed the HC GIS Task Force Committee that, as a GIS Day committee member, he has acquired a domain name and set up a web site containing information about the event. The URL is: www.HoustonAreaGISDay.org.</p> <p>André also mentioned that he will set up an exhibitor and vendor registration web page. He will inform participants in last year's event and give them the first opportunity to register. He will then inform other potential participants.</p> <p>This will be a year-round maintained site that will contain current and historical information and pictures relating to GIS day.</p> <p>There was then discussion about the Mentor Program that is new to this year's event. The Mentor Program is designed to create a relationship between the mentor and the instructors to prepare them for the long-term instruction of their students in the technology of GIS.</p> <p>Mentors and their students will showcase their projects and exhibits in the Map Gallery area of the GIS Day event.</p> <p>Michelle Manual of the Greater HC 9-1-1 expressed an interest in contributing her time and expertise as a mentor. She requested additional information and was given the contact information of the Mentor Program sub-committee members.</p> <p>The GIS Day 2004 event will take place on November 18 and 19 at the University of Houston – Downtown.</p> <p>The president of ESRI, Jack Dangermond, met with a group from the GDC at the ESRI Conference in San Diego, CA. He was very excited about the GDC's GIS Day event and was impressed with the Mentor Program. He generously donated 50 books dealing with GIS in community education. He also pledged to attend next year's event.</p> <p>This year's keynote speaker will be Frank Billingsley, the local weatherman from KPRC – TV. He will also bring RADAR the Weather Dog.</p>	<p>André Bally</p>	<p>November 2004</p>
<p>Project Reports</p> <p>- Asset Management System</p>	<p>The HCPID-ENG Department is developing a GIS-based Asset Management System that will utilize their Harris County road log. This will allow the department to track the condition, age, type and material of roadways in Harris County. It will also provide them the ability to track current and future road projects and report on the value of their infrastructure. It is the goal to assist them with their GASB-34 compliance requirements.</p>	<p>André Bally</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Old Business			
<p>- HC 2010 Technology Task Force Status</p>	<p>André provided an update on the activities of the GIS sub-committee of the HC 2010 Technology Task Force.</p> <p>Peter Key of the HCPID and a few of the committee members have visited HC agencies and departments to discuss their GIS needs and perceptions. Peter has visited 39 of the 52 targeted departments and has seen varying levels of usage. Most were not using GIS at all, but some were using the technology at varying degrees. The majority of those interviewed were very enthusiastic to begin using GIS, while others had no interest at all.</p> <p>The Greater HC 9-1-1 was interested in participating and requested that Peter be asked to schedule a meeting with them to discuss their use of GIS.</p> <p>Once all interviews are complete, Peter will present his findings and recommendations to the 2010 Committee.</p> <p>It was mentioned that one of the issues to be reviewed by the committee is the disparity of funding of GIS for the Justice departments versus funding for the Services departments. Currently, the Justice departments receive much more funding than the Services departments.</p> <p>Other issues included the responsibility of data ownership by originating agencies, custodianship of that data and the possibility of performing a county-wide needs assessment.</p>	<p>André Bally</p>	<p>Monthly</p>
Open Forum			
<p>- ESRI Version 9.0 Software Installation</p>	<p>An open discussion was held on the installation of ESRI version 9.0 software products. A number of agencies are experiencing difficulties with their installations.</p> <p>Some issues discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installation problems faced by HC-JIMS when setting up their Tomcat and Apache services using the Windows XP operating system. - HCPID had no problems with their installation since their data resides on the same machine as the software. - It was agreed upon that a recurring item will be placed on future Agendas for discussions of user experiences regarding installation and use of the 9.0 version of the software products. 	<p>All</p>	<p>Monthly</p>
New Business			
<p>-Next Harris County GIS Task Force Meeting</p>	<p>The next meeting will be hosted by Marc Berryman at the offices of the Greater HC 9-1-1. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 2004 at 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>The facility is located at:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">602 Sawyer (7th Floor Conference Room)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Houston, TX 77021</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Monthly</p>

Adjournment			
	A motion was made by André Bally to adjourn the meeting. There was a second and the meeting adjourned.	All	Monthly