

HARRIS COUNTY GIS TASK FORCE



MINUTES OF THE October 21, 2004 COMMITTEE MEETING

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

PRESENT:

Pat Brill	Harris County PHES
David Dignum	ESRI
Nancy Fischer	City of Houston - Public Works & Engineering
Samuel Garcia	Harris County PID - Engineering
Christina Hailey	Harris County PHES - Mosquito Control District
Vince Hamilton	Michael Baker Corporation
Charles Monney	Harris County PHES - Epidemiology
Amber Thomas	Harris County PID – Storm Water Quality Section
Michael Walters	Harris County Flood Control District

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion/Information	Responsibility	Due Date
Call to Order	Michael Walters – HCFCD substituting as Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.	Roger Forshee	Monthly
Adoption of Minutes for Sept. 16, 2004	With no changes, the minutes were unanimously approved and accepted.	All	Monthly
Introductions	No introductions were given. There were no new members or visitors in attendance.	All	Monthly
Status Reports			
	No reports were given.	All	Monthly
Review of the Oct 13th H-GAC GDC Meeting			
- STAR*Map® Status	<p>The 3rd Quarter 2004 version of the STAR*Map was made available in the first week of October. There have been 28,668 changes processed since the previous release. This includes 3,304 new roads added and 25,364 attribute and/or spatial updates.</p> <p>There were approx. 7,500 additional address points added to the CenterPoint point file.</p> <p>The 4th Quarter release of the STAR*Map will be available the first week of January 2005.</p> <p>The primary data format for each release will continue to be in shapefile format until GoSync is implemented.</p>	Michael Walters	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 all TIF imagery from the vendor, Kucera International. It included all 1' and 6" resolution imagery.</p> <p>H-GAC has begun distribution to all participating members. They have compressed all imagery to a MrSID format and will make them 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. It was asked that the imagery not be distributed to the public until after the first of January since all members may not have received their delivery until then.</p> <p>Kucera gave a “contract wrap-up” presentation where they discussed the delivery area captured, the collection methods used, the overall spatial accuracy and the possible purchase and use of a new digital format camera.</p>	Michael Walters	Monthly

<p>Review of Oct. 13th HGAC- GDC Meeting (continued)</p> <p>- 2004 Aerial Imagery Acquisition (continued)</p>	<p>Kucera is entering the second year of their 2-year contract. The GDC is requesting that members interested in participating in this upcoming acquisition inform the committee at the next meeting.</p> <p>The cost for imagery under next year's contract could potentially be 30% higher in order to offset the cost of the purchase of the new digital camera.</p> <p>There was discussion of a new file format for the images. JPEG2000 may be a possible format instead of MrSID. It was mentioned that the JPEG2000 is smaller in size and retains a lossless quality.</p>		
<p>- GDC Technical Advisory Committee on Remote Editing</p>	<p>There was a discussion about the status of the purchase of the GoSync products and licensing for participating members of the GDC. The products include:</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 are 14 agencies that expressed an interest in participating in a cost-shared purchase of the products.</p> <p>H-GAC has purchased an HP transport server and a license of the GoSync Server software. They are currently coordinating with Tadpole-Cartesia (who are in the process of a name change) to discuss installation.</p> <p>H-GAC also purchased 2 GoSync View licenses and has chosen HC JIMS to participate in the initial beta testing since they are both using the same platform, SDE for Oracle with ArcGIS 8.3. (GoSync products for SDE for SQL are still in beta format and support is not yet available. It is hoped that the full product will be available by year's end.) H-GAC will provide a questionnaire to all members to determine what platforms are being used.</p> <p>The GDC plans to review the database compatibility of the multiple versions of the STAR*Map. The goal is to incorporate all participating members' versions into a "universal" geodatabase. This will also require the creation of a global user ID for each road segment. This GUID will need to be incorporated into the Citrix-based STAR*Map Editor as well.</p> <p>There was a continuation of a discussion from last month about the annual cost of STAR*Map maintenance. Max Samfield plans to survey all members for their funding preferences and offered a possibility: 1) to continue the \$8,900 annual maintenance and charge a user fee of \$75 - \$100 per month for all users not paying maintenance. He will provide a budget outlining current costs faced by H-GAC and the GDC and prepare a proposal for funding.</p>	<p>Michael Walters</p>	<p>Monthly</p>

<p>Review of Oct. 13th HGAC- GDC Meeting (continued)</p> <p>- ABI Data Renewal</p>	<p>The GDC is pursuing a cost-shared renewal of the license for the ABI business data and the household data.</p> <p>The cost of purchasing this data is \$35,000. All funds have been contributed by participating member agencies. The GDC is providing the purchase request to the H-GAC Board of Directors for approval.</p> <p>It was noted that since the data contains personal information, users are restricted from posting anything other than name and address on the Internet.</p> <p>Once received, the H-GAC will geocode the data and provide a point file to all committee members.</p>	<p>Michael Walters</p>	<p>Dec. 2004</p>
<p>- GIS Day 2004</p>	<p>The GIS Day 2004 Committee met on October 8th. Each of the following sub-committees gave reports:</p> <p><u>Logistics</u> The two Computer Labs for Kid's Day are nearly ready. Further discussions were held on this and relating to providing Internet connections to exhibitors.</p> <p>The Map Gallery layout was determined and all accessories coordinated. UH-D will provide bulletin boards, but exhibitors need to bring tacks.</p> <p><u>Website</u> The GIS Day 2004 website has been created. The URL is: www.HoustonAreaGISDay.org. A list of sponsors will have their company logos displayed on the site. Visitors can now register on-line as an exhibitor; submit an entry to the Map Gallery; read the official GIS Day flyer and more.</p> <p><u>Public Relations</u> Dignitaries confirmed to attend include Houston City Council Members Addie Wiseman, Carol Mims-Galloway, Carroll Robinson and Ada Edwards. Frank Billingsley will be Keynote speaker.</p> <p>There will be multiple reporters from local TV news stations in attendance covering the event.</p> <p><u>Mentoring</u> Mentors and their students will showcase their projects and exhibits in the Map Gallery area of the GIS Day event.</p> <p>There are currently 20 matches of mentors and teachers. There are still some teachers without a mentor and everyone is encouraged to participate.</p> <p>HC JIMS's GIS group has agreed to be a mentor to the students at the Houston Law Enforcement Academy. There will be 28 students participating along with the Academy's GIS staff.</p>	<p>Michael Walters Nancy Fischer David Dignum</p>	<p>November 2004</p>

<p>Review of Oct. 13th HGAC- GDC Meeting (continued)</p> <p>- GIS Day 2004 (continued)</p>	<p><u>Discussion:</u> Nancy Fischer of the COH-Public Works & Engineering provided 10 GIS Day posters to the HC GIS TF committee members. She encouraged everyone to display them in a prominent place within their organization. Additional copies can be requested from Nancy via e-mail at nancy.fischer@cityofhouston.net.</p> <p>The GIS Day 2004 event will take place on November 18 and 19 at the University of Houston – Downtown.</p>		
<p>Old Business</p>			
<p>- Migration to ESRI 9.0 Series: Issues and Resolutions</p>	<p>Many agencies are attempting to migrate fully to 9.0 and are experiencing various problems.</p> <p>HC JIMS is still having issues migrating to ArcIMS 9.0.</p> <p>The HCPID-SWQS installed ArcGIS 9.0 and experienced a crash of a computer hard drive.</p> <p>The HCFCD is in the process of migrating to ArcGIS and ArcSDE 9.0 for SQL. Issues faced with the ArcGIS migration included the inability to save a project file (.mxd) and computer lock ups. Documentation from the ESRI on-line support website was used to correct these problems. An issue while converting an existing SDE 8.3 geodatabase to SDE 9.0 was resolved. The procedure involved exporting only the gdb schema (no data) to XML and importing the schema to 9.0. Data can then be loaded into the empty schema in SDE 9.0</p>	All	Monthly
<p>New Business</p>			
<p>- Enterprise-wide ArcIMS Site</p>	<p>HC JIMS is planning to implement a county-wide ArcIMS website for use by all Harris County agencies. Roger Forshee asks that interested agencies contact him to discuss the creation of their needed application(s).</p>	Michael Walters	Monthly
<p>Open Forum</p>			
	<p>There was no discussion during the open forum.</p>	All	Monthly
<p>Announcements</p>			
<p>- HC GIS TF Minutes</p> <p>- New DFIRM Maps Released</p>	<p>Roger Forshee wants to inform members that there is now a link to past meeting minutes on the Task Force website at www.jims.hctx.net/gis.</p> <p>Michael Walters mentioned that the preliminary DFIRM maps were released by the HCFCD and FEMA on October 18th. The official public review process begins in December and will continue for a one year period. Final adoption and implementation of the maps will occur in late 2005. The maps can be viewed on-line at www.tsarp.org. The HCFCD will be holding 5 public information fairs to present and discuss the maps. An official press release can be provided upon request.</p>	All	Monthly

<p>Announcements (continued)</p> <p>- Best of Texas Awards</p> <p>-Next Harris County GIS Task Force Meeting</p>	<p>The HC JIMS GIS group was recognized for their outstanding IT innovations by winning 2 “Best of Texas” awards this year. One was for their “GPS in the Parks” program and one was for their “The Prize at the Port” Radio Communication Center installation. Congratulations were extended by the committee to HC JIMS for these achievements.</p> <p>The next meeting, scheduled for November, has been cancelled due to the GIS Day event scheduling. Members will be informed of the date/time/place of the next meeting when confirmed.</p>		
<p>Adjournment</p>			
	<p>A motion was made by Michael Walters to adjourn the meeting. There was a second and the meeting adjourned.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Monthly</p>