

GDW Meeting Summary for May 4, 2022

2022 Houston Area GIS Day Planning Kickoff: Nicole Ceranek with Montgomery County, TX spoke about the Houston Area GIS Day taking place this November and the need to start the planning process extra early this year. Nicole plans to hold the first of many planning meetings for the event on Thursday, May 26th, at 11am CST to formally kickoff the planning phase for this annual event. At this meeting and additional meetings that follow, Nicole plans to establish roles and responsibilities for planning the 2022 event. If you would like to be involved, there is a [volunteer registration form](#) that will add you onto a contact list for the planning meetings to get involved with the planning of the 2022 Houston Area GIS Day. Additionally, Brooks Andrews with H-GAC discussed the merger of the Houston Regional GIS Expo back into the GIS Day event as a part of the Houston Area GIS Day making it a one-day event for both students and professionals in 2022. There will be more on this from Nicole and Brooks at the planning meetings throughout the year that start on Thursday, May 26th, at 11am CST. For more information, please visit <http://www.houstonareagisday.org/>.

2022 H-GAC Aerial Imagery Cost-Share Update: Brooks Andrews with H-GAC discussed the status of the 2022 H-GAC Aerial Imagery and the next steps in cost-share program. Currently, the 2022 aerials are being finalized by the project vendor, Surdex Corporation, and H-GAC is finalizing the user QAQC zones to start the voluntary QAQC process on or before Wednesday, May 11th. H-GAC sent out a survey in April about the voluntary QAQC phase and gathered nine organizations/companies that plan to volunteer to participate in the QAQC. There will be 22 total QAQC zones across the nine participating organizations/companies and unlike years past, these zones will not cover the entirety of the H-GAC region and will not be mandatory to complete. H-GAC will assign the 22 zones in the coming days and, as mentioned, will officially kickoff the QAQC phase on or before Wednesday, May 11th and will allow three weeks total for this process to be completed. On Wednesday, June 1st the QAQC phase will end regardless of the status of the QAQC zones and Surdex Corporation will incorporate any valid edit calls made during the QAQC into the final data for final distribution. Final invoices for all 2022 H-GAC Aerial Imagery Cost-Share participants are being finalized now and will be sent out from H-GAC about one month prior to final product delivery later this summer. Should anyone have questions, please contact DSGIS@h-gac.com or visit the [project homepage](#).

2022 DataAxle Data Cost-Share Update: Brooks Andrews with H-GAC discussed the status of the 2022 DataAxle Data Cost-Share program and noted that the final 2022 DataAxle business and consumer databases are now complete and ready to use. The final data consists of 1.6M business records and 6.3M residential records and comes in File Geodatabase, Shapefile, DBF, and SAS formats in addition to a data stats spreadsheet, data dictionaries, contract documents, and other supplemental documents all available to the 2022 DataAxle Cost-Share participants only. Invoices for this program were sent out from H-GAC on Tuesday, April 26th and once H-GAC receives payment or proof of payment for an invoice, the final deliverables will be sent from H-GAC electronically via password protected FTP download. As a reminder, H-GAC will only release the final data to those participants with a paid invoice. For more information on this project, visit the [project homepage](#) or email DSGIS@h-gac.com.

Lightning Presentation – Harvey DR17 Recovery Map Demo: Dr. Alfred Henson with the City of Houston presented a quick look at the City’s [Harvey DR17 Recovery Map](#) web application that displays information about the City’s Homebuyer and Homeowner assistance programs as they relate to disaster recovery funds spent due to damage from Hurricane Harvey in 2017. The web application allows the user to display funds spent for either program by city council districts or by super neighborhoods within the city limits to display where the most funds have been spent to date. The application is refreshed monthly with new data as more funds are spent to help homeowners still recovering. For more information on this web application from the City of Houston or for application navigation and instruction, please visit the [application instructional webpage](#).

Guest Presentation – URISA Texas Initiatives, History, Volunteer Program, and Rebranding: Adailin (Adi) Lebron with the City of Grapevine and Kristina Deitz with the City of Plano both representing URISA Texas, presented the history, rebranding effort, and current programs and initiatives at URISA Texas. URISA Texas is the statewide chapter for the national, nonprofit Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA). Adi and Kristina discussed the rich history URISA Texas has and the plans for future growth across the state in the years to come, including several upcoming events like the URISA Texas Speaker Series and the various Mappy Hours and Geocaching events planned across the state. More information on

URISA Texas can be found on the [chapter's website](#) or by viewing Adi and Kristina's [entire presentation here](#).

Lightning Presentation – H-GAC Cybersecurity Workgroup: John Tran and Tanya Nguyen both with H-GAC, discussed their plans to launch the new Information Security Advisory Workgroup hosted by H-GAC. This new workgroup will look to bring together IT/IS professionals from across the H-GAC region and provide a forum where organizations and their representatives can share ideas, lessons learned, and best practices on how to avoid and respond to cyber-attacks in the future. For more information, John and Tanya's entire presentation can be seen [here](#).

Announcements/Other Items:

- The lone H-GAC/TMGIS GIS training course scheduled for the month of May 2022 is the Introduction to ArcGIS Pro course on May 16th and 17th. Check the [2022 GIS Training at H-GAC website](#) for more information on the trainings and how to get the 15% discount for GDW members.
- There are currently five open GIS/Geospatial positions from across the H-GAC region from employers such as Greater Harris County 911, Esri, RCP, CenterPoint Energy, and Energy Transfer. Information and applications for these positions can be found on Esri's regional GIS jobs board that is assessible via the link below.
 - <https://myago.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/5c110a18938f4390b3cbbf7021c61aa4>
- There are several open positions at the Institute for a Disaster Resilient Texas at Texas A&M University-Galveston all of which are geospatial positions in some fashion. To see the list of current open positions, please visit the [Institute's career website](#).
- The next GDW meeting will take place via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, June 1st, 2022 at 9:30am CST and will feature Fracta, Inc. as the guest presenter.