



# Geographic Data Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 1, 2009, 9:30 am

## **ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

The following of the Geographic Data Committee attended all or a portion of the  
July 1, 2009 GDC Meeting:

City of Houston-Houston Emergency Center, Lee Mays  
City of Houston Planning and Development, Larry Nierth  
City of Houston-Public Utilities Division, Kirt Arthur  
City of Tomball, Lori Lakatos  
Fort Bend County Engineer's Office, Robert Casey Lyde  
Harris County Appraisal District, Thang Nguyen, David Moss  
Harris County Flood Control District, Scott Lamon  
Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services, Nathan McConnell  
Harris County Public Infrastructure Department-Architecture & Engineering Division, Andre Bally  
HDR Claunch & Miller, Inc., Doug Wilson  
HNTB Corporation, Grayson Bannister  
Houston-Galveston Area Council, T.J. Shultz  
Houston TranStar, Maria Cristela Vera  
Port of Houston Authority, Grant Garrison  
Rice University, Kim Ricker  
TCB (Turner, Collie & Braden), Bruce Davidson  
Texas Department of Transportation, Jeremy Scott  
University of Houston-Department of Economics, Janet Kohlase

### **Visitors**

Nick Popovich  
Amy Nichols  
Sawadogo Edgard  
Brandon Grimm  
Jeff Ledbetter  
Yancy Scott



# Geographic Data Committee

## Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 1, 2009, 9:30 am

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion/Information	Responsibility
<b>Item 1:</b> <b>Review of the July Minutes</b>	The minutes were accepted as presented.	Scott Lamon (HCFCD)
<b>Item 2:</b> <b>Star*Map Replication for Subscribers</b>	<p>Thomas Schultz discussed Star* Map Replication for Star*Map Subscribers. The Star*Map will continue to be provided via CD and FTP as well as through this ArcGIS Server web service to all Star*Map Subscribers. Using the distributed geodatabase toolbar, users can extract the data to their own machines in any kind of geodatabase format they wish. You can download a specific extent or the entire region. Internally the time is 12 minutes to get the entire region, so a good E.T.A. for an external extraction of the entire region would be 15-20 minutes. Another option that is coming is replication, where the user would first download the entire region, and then only the updates would be downloaded thereafter (one-way replication). This option should be available very soon. Wenge posts and reconciles the Star*Map data every two weeks, so that will be the update frequency of the map service. Mr. Schultz will send out user names and passwords later, along with connection instructions to all Star*Map Subscribers.</p>	Thomas Schultz (H-GAC)
<b>Item 3:</b> <b>ArcGIS Online Data Sharing</b>	<p>Grant Garrison reviewed ArcGIS Online data sharing. The GDC Officers are considering setting something up through ArcGIS Online where GDC members can upload and share their data and Map Services with one another. Nick Popovich gave a brief demo/presentation of ArcGIS Online. ArcGIS Online is still in Beta. Groups can be created inside ArcGIS Online. Layer Packages (new at 9.3.1) can be uploaded to ArcGIS Online to share source data and layers with others. Currently up to 1 GB of space is available for each User/Account. ESRI may eventually increase to 4 GB of available space for each User/Account. In order to access ArcGIS Online you must have an ESRI Global User Account (based on a ESRI Customer Number). Basically one must be an ESRI Customer with an ESRI Customer Number in order to access this tool. You still must create a ESRI Global User Account and then register that account with ArcGIS Online. ArcGIS Online is a sort of social networking tool for ESRI GIS Users (similar to Facebook or MySpace but for ESRI GIS Users). This maybe an effective way for</p>	Grant Garrison (PHA)



# Geographic Data Committee

## Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 1, 2009, 9:30 am

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion/Information	Responsibility
	<p>GDC members to share their data and Map Services with one another. We are going to continue to study ArcGIS Online as a data sharing vehicle and may setup something for the GDC by the end of the Year.</p>	
<p><b>Item 4: GIS Day Status Report</b></p>	<p>Larry Nierth gave an update on the GIS Day status. The next GIS Day meeting will be held on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2 pm, at the ESRI Office at 11200 Westheimer, Suite 630. The continuing education GIS training workshop for HISD Teachers went well. It was held at HISD's Reagan High School campus back on July 11. About 20 HISD Teachers showed up to the GIS training workshop. They received 4 hours of continuing education credit for attending this workshop. The GDC has been certified by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to provide basic GIS training for Continuing Education Credits. One more GIS training class for Teachers is being considered for later this summer, right before school begins for the Fall semester. There will be a scholarship awarded for one high school student and another scholarship awarded for one college student. An essay contest will be held at GIS Day for high school students. This year GIS Day will be restricted to 250 students for Kids Day. In years past we have had upwards of 300 to 400 students. We just don't have the resources to fully support that number of students this year. Two computer labs will be used at UH for the Kids Day. Each computer lab has up to 30 computers and we normally have about 2 kids per computer for a total of up to 60 kids per computer lab at any given time. All presentations this year will be held in the main Exhibitor Auditorium. We are still looking for a Key Note Speaker and will be sending out a Call for Presentations in late August or early September. We are in need of GIS Mentors this coming school year. Mentorships will only require a limited amount of time for a month or two (October and November) before the GIS Day event. Probably just one or two hours a week for about six or seven weeks. Please contact Larry Nierth (713- 837-7893) or David Feinstein (713-914-4442) if you would like to be a Mentor.</p>	<p>Larry Nierth (City of Houston)</p>
<p><b>Item 5: CommunityViz Demo</b></p>	<p>Doug Walker presented a demo on CommunityViz. This product is an advanced yet easy-to use GIS software application designed to help people visualize, analyze and communicate about their communities' future. It is an extension of ArcGIS (plug-in/extension for ArcMap) used for planning. Developed by the Orton Family Foundation in 2001. Three main capabilities: Analysis,</p>	<p>Doug Walker (Placeways, LLC)</p>



# Geographic Data Committee

## Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 1, 2009, 9:30 am

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion/Information	Responsibility
	<p>Visualization, Communication. Costs about \$1,000 for a license with about \$600 a year in annual maintenance/support. Adds many tools to ArcGIS. Emphasizes decision support for comprehensive plans and regional plans. Excellent tool for planning groups. Over 1,000 users currently. Widely used by governmental organizations, universities, and NGO's. Provides capabilities for alternative scenarios. Wizard driven. Can compare various scenarios. Does not currently support ArcGIS Server apps yet. Does not require any other ESRI Extensions to work. Acts as an Extension in ArcMap.</p>	
<p><b>Item 6: Other Issues</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aerial Imagery Selection Website Status               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ About 15 participants so far.</li> <li>✓ Available thru the end of August.</li> <li>✓ GDC members should identify the Aerial Imagery Lamberts/Tiles they want to acquire for 2010 using this site.</li> <li>✓ Final costs/prices for each participant will be determined by October.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Aerial TAC meeting: Wednesday, July 8, 2:00pm, H-GAC Conf. Room A               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ About 15 vendors have registered for the RFP.</li> <li>✓ Proposal deadline is July 6 at H-GAC.</li> <li>✓ In years past H-GAC has received 10-15 proposals for Aerial Imagery.</li> <li>✓ Final proposals and sample imagery will be distributed to TAC members at the July 8 meeting.</li> <li>✓ Proposal evaluation and ranking criteria will be discussed at the July 8 meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Upcoming Local GIS Training               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ System Architecture Design August 4-6 at the ESRI Houston Office.</li> <li>✓ Introduction to ArcGIS Server Image Extension August 11-12 at the ESRI Houston Office.</li> <li>✓ Introduction to ArcGIS Server August 24-25 at the ESRI Houston Office.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Scott Lamon (HCFC)</p>



# Geographic Data Committee

## Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 1, 2009, 9:30 am

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion/Information	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESRI User Conference               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ About 60% of GDC members are attending ESRI User Conference this year.</li> <li>✓ Nick Popovich will be coordinating a Houston/GDC member get together at the ESRI User Conference. Contact Nick if you are interested.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

Adjournment

**Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.**

Upcoming Meeting

**Wednesday, August 5, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.**